

AMERICAN EMBASSY
OFFICE OF THE MILITARY ATTACHE.
BUENOS AIRES, ARGENTINA.

January 31, 1928

3861

Subject: Current Events for the Month of January.

To: A.C. of S. G-2.

RECEIVED G/2 W. D. MAH 2- 1928

1. The speech of the President of the United States at Havana was received in Buenos Aires in varying degrees of outbursts of criticism against the United States. "La Critica" (yellow journal) published in large headlines, such remarks as "Coblidge fails to Convince"; "It is a speech hollow and False"; "Nobody believes him;" (with a picture of the President) etc., followed with a great tirade against the United States; occupation of Nicaragua and the Monroe Doctrine. The "Prensa" which probably has more influence in Argentina than any other "diario" was also very harsh in its criticism of the speech. This paper for many months has carried on a very determined campaign against the United States' policy in Nicaragua and the Monroe doctrine in general. The "Nación" in a more conservative manner, as well as the "Razón" both criticised and made note of the expounding of such a brilliant program of Panamericanism by the man who in the last few years has put into practice the methods repudiated in the field of theory.

Mr. Hughes' speech at the Pan American Conference did much to clear the situation and while not accepted by the very radical papers as convincing, yet the attacks have been less drastic. The Prensa however holds out in its attack and basing its argument that the United States cannot talk of independence of the smaller Latin American countries with the United States troops occupying Nicaragua. That no political parties can ask intervention in an independent country. And this paper likewise continues its campaign against the Monroe Doctrine.

It was the opinion of this Embassy that the Argentine delegation to Havana had received instructions very friendly to the United States; on January 11th the following announcement was made:

"The Executive Power has contemplated the possibility that some of the delegations to the Sixth Pan-American Conference might bring up the Nicaragua question and that the legal majority might resolve to consider it. In that case the Argentine delegation after making a statement to the effect that it does not wish to advance an opinion relative to the juridical relations between the United States and Nicaragua,

C. of S. G-2

shall make a declaration of principles of international policy in accord with the Argentine traditions of respect of the free determination and interdependence of the American nations."

Two days previous, Mr. Gallardo, Argentine Minister of Foreign Affairs who was in Europe gave an interview in which he said something to the effect that Argentina was so far from Nicaragua that very little interest was shown in this matter in his country. All the papers immediately took it up and demanded a statement by the Government.

Dr. Pueyrredon's speech at Havana on the United States tariff barriers has been given much space here and one headline reads "Argentina threatens to withdraw from the Pan American Union". It is believed this speech is for home consumption for he knows that Argentina's tariff schedule is no model for unrestricted trade. Gasoline sells here from 40 to 45 cents per gallon; Chesterfield cigarettes 42½ cents; lead \$40 per ton duty and silks about 50%. These are so called protected industries. At this time the Yerba planters of Misiones have a delegation in Buenos Aires to call on the President asking for protection against importation of yerba from Brazil and Uruguay.

2. Lord Bledisloe Under Secretary for Agriculture of the British Government made a ten day visit here in the interest of eradicating Aftosa. He was very well received and made several talks and gave interviews on the subject. Nothing definite was accomplished. Some people and even the papers drew a comparison of the manner in which the British handled this subject and how the United States handled it a year ago. It is hard to make the Argentines understand that England now has Aftosa in that country and also England must import Argentine meat and neither of these two last conditions exist in the United States. In this connection it might be stated that the press reports the first shipment of chilled meat from Australia to England. Time for trip was 52 days and the meat was received in good condition.

3. The Federal Government intervened in the Province of Catamarca and took over the Government. In the Electoral College for Governor of the Province no one party had a majority of electors and the dead lock continued until after the term of the then Governor expired. Under the Constitution, the President of the Senate should take office till a new election takes place. The Chief of Police of the Capital decided he would be Governor so with the police behind him, he took charge of the Government House. General Vacarezza, Commander of the 5th Division was named interventor and took over control of the Government without any disturbance. He has been instructed to install in power as Governor, the President of the Province Senate.

S. G-2

3. The President likewise intervened during the month in the Province of Santiago del Estero upon the petition of a Group of deputies of that Province. There has been a deadlock between the Legislative and Executive branches in that Province for some time. Alfredo Espeche, under Secretary of the Department of Interior has been named Interventor.

4. The results of the Governmental election in Salta were: Radicals (Irigoyenistas) 23 Electors, the Conservatives (Anti-Irigoyen) 26 Electors and the "Union Calchaqui" 4 electors. This last is a small group pertaining to a political division of the province. A majority is necessary to elect. The electoral College will meet in February 22nd. The rumor is that the Irigoyenists have promised more to the Calchaquis and so will receive their four votes and will name the Governor.

5. Elections in Tucumán were held this month. The votes are now being counted and apparently Irigoyen has received an overwhelming majority.

6. The Irigoyen party has not yet named their candidate for President and Vice-President. Apparently they will not do so till after the election in Santa Fé. After many rumors were circulated that President Alvear was indifferent to the outcome of the Presidential election, he finally gave an interview that he was in favor of Melo-Gallo. The Anti-Personalistas are freely criticising him for not intervening in the Province of Buenos Aires (the richest province) and ousting the provincial Irigoyen Government. This would cut off the principal supply of funds for Irigoyen party and decrease the latter's majority in that Province. Absolutely no legal reason exists for intervening and the President is to be commended, however it is predicted that his refusal will cause defeat to his party in the National Elections.

7. Juan B. Justo the foremost socialist leader died during the month. All political parties joined in paying tribute to one of Argentina's foremost statesmen and economists and one who can justly be termed Argentina's first Socialist. Request notation of death be made on "Who's Who" card.

8. General Nicasio F. Adalid, Chief of Ordnance of the Argentine Army has been ordered to Europe for a two year study of Arsenals. He was relieved by Colonel Partiné, Inspector of Infantry and who has had no previous service on technical duty.

9. Colonel Francisco Fasola Castaño has been detailed for duty in Geneva as Military Expert with the preparatory Commission for Disarmament. He is an excellent Officer and at present is an Instructor at the Superior Escuela de Guerra. A "Who's Who" card is being prepared in duplicate and will be forwarded.

100-8-5
-4-
A.C. of S. G-2

✓ 10. General Manuel J. Costa of the Minister of War's Office (See who's who file) has been ordered for duty in Brussels as head of the Armament Mission to relieve General Belloni who comes home to be Inspector General. This duty was offered to two other Generals and Costa did not wish it. Nearly four years have elapsed since the munitions law was passed and no Artillery material has yet been received. There are some forty officers with families travelling in Europe and the United States in connection with this mission. When an Army officer goes abroad he receives a salary in gold equal to his salary in paper, passage for himself family and one servant. With a new administration coming in power in October there is likely to be an embarrassing investigation.

✓ 11. There was published in the Military Bulletin during the month that contract with the Koln, Rosweill Pulver Fabrik of Berlin, reported in April 1927 Current Events, to construct a powder factory, was terminated. The plans and specifications were disapproved and the Argentine Government will proceed to build the factory.

12. The Ministry of Public works has announced the official inauguration of the aerial post service between Buenos Aires, Brazil, Africa & Europe will be on March 1st. The contract having been signed with the Compañia General de Empresas Aeronauticas (Latecoere Lines). This Company has also announced that contract has been signed with the Paraguayan Government for Buenos Aires - Asunción Line and also a project has been outlined for interior service in Argentina. The last two projects have not yet been approved by the Argentine Government. This enterprise received quite a set back on January 16th when at Solis (100 Kms. from Montevideo) one of their machines with mail from Rio de Janeiro crashed to the ground killing both pilot and mechanic.

13. The Director General of statistics has announced that in 1927 the trade balance was 151,568,566 pesos gold in favor of Argentina as against some thirty million against Argentina in 1926.

14. The Minister of Finance has reported an increase in revenues for 1927 of \$19,737,000 m/n over that of 1926.


Major C.T. Richardson
Military Attaché.

AMERICAN EMBASSY
OFFICE OF THE MILITARY ATTACHE.
BUENOS AIRES, ARGENTINA.

February 29th, 1928

3870

Subject: Current Events for the Month of February.

To: A. C. of S. G-2

RECEIVED C/2 W. D. APR 2 1928

1. The most important event of the month in Argentina was the activities of the Argentine Foreign Office to prevent Dr. Pueyrredon from resigning and exposing to the world the disagreements between the Government and Dr. Pueyrredon.

The Prensa was very loud in condemning the manner in which the Argentine Foreign Office handled the matter and of the President who during the great part of the time was at Mar del Plata where apparently no one dared molest him with telegrams or telephones. The Prensa among other attacks said:

"The President will not have the support of the public opinion in this emergency and this will be one more reason for him to feel all around him the vacuum being made by his countrymen. On the other hand Dr. Pueyrredon has all the Argentine Nation in his favor and he would have had also, even though ill informed, the support of the Executive Power had not the suggestions of the Delegate Espil intervened. A famous Government".

The "Nación" approved of Pueyrredon's theory but not his personal stubborn attitude. "La Critica" proclaimed him a hero. Pueyrredon had no other idea than Argentine politics and personal gain. Had his stand found favor in the eyes of the other Latin American countries, he probably would have been supported to the limit by his Government. When Espil's telegram was received the President quickly grasped the situation and tried to get Pueyrredon to back down. If Pueyrredon's dream was to be the compromise candidate between the Personalistas and anti-Personalistas he will be sadly disappointed for President Alvear will never forgive him. Irigoyen if he desires can make Pueyrredon Vice President on the former's ticket but I am not so sure Irigoyen has the desire. The 6th Pan American conference is being written up under 3850 and will go forward in the next mail.

2. Irigoyen's party have not yet named their Presidential candidates. The election is now only about a month off. Cordoba will hold their Provincial elections on March 11th. To all appearance there will be an Irigoyen landslide. The latest political rumor is that Irigoyen is a sick man and with his extreme age, he does not desire to be President and that conferences have been held looking to a compromise. For Irigoyen's

S. G-2

party to be a success, he must head the ticket. If he does, it seems now he will be sure to win so the other party are doubtless willing to agree on a compromise candidate. No names of possible compromise candidates have been heard. I personally believe Irigoyen will be elected President and will take office without any disturbance.

2. Another unsuccessful effort was made during the month to persuade or force the President of the Republic to oust the Irigoyen party from control of the Queen Province (Buenos Aires). Several prominent politicians of the Anti-Personalista party assembled and drew up a statement addressed to the President in regard to conditions in Buenos Aires province and the activities of the Government authorities in the political elections of other Provinces (Santa Fé) and that government funds were being used in such activities. The Governor of the Province immediately appointed a board to investigate the charges, denounced them as false and instructed his legal machine to start criminal proceedings against the men who signed the paper referred to above.

3. "La Critica" for some time has been campaigning against General Justo and his political activities. Among other things warning the country to watch him. Unfortunately General Justo came out in the press and said the country need not fear him as a Dictator for his conscience and his friendship for the President would not allow him to use the Army for such purposes. All the papers except the "Nación" immediately opened up a broadside of criticism and demands for his resignation. Some accuse him of profiting personally in the purchase of land for the Army and I have been informed that the Irigoyenists are searching all Bank records for personal deposits made by him since he has been Minister. Congress will probably investigate some of his activities, as he has been exceedingly active politically for an Army officer.

4. The two destroyers "Cervantes" and "Garay" purchased by the Argentine Government from the Spanish Government have arrived. The Argentine Navy seem well pleased with them.

5. Two Russians Baranoff and Tchenoff have arrived in this country. The press has stated that they are here to establish a great commercial agency similar to the Arcos House which was in London. An effort will be made to follow their activities.

6. The new submarine base at the Port of Mar del Plata was inaugurated officially last Saturday in presence of the President of the Republic and the Ministers of Marine, Public Works and War. Details will be given under proper section of Minimum Requirements.


C. T. Richardson
Military Attaché.

AMERICAN EMBASSY
OFFICE OF THE MILITARY ATTACHE.
BUENOS AIRES, ARGENTINA.

March 31st, 1928

3876.

Subject: Current Events for the Month of March.

To: A. C. of S. G-2.

RECEIVED G/2 W. D. APR 26 1928

1. All other events during this period in Argentina were secondary to the political activities preceding the Presidential Election on April 1st. The Personalistas (Irigoyen) convention took place in Buenos Aires on March 22nd and on March 24th Irigoyen and Dr. Francisco Beiró were named as the ticket. The former by acclamation and the latter by 142 votes out of 171. Dr. Beiró is a lawyer born in Entre Rios and during the last year or two of Irigoyen's last term as President he was Minister of the Interior. He is not a man of any outstanding achievements nor recognized super ability at the same time he has the reputation of being honest and straight forward in his professional life. A who's who card with photograph is being forwarded.

2. The voters went to the polls with six parties written on the ballots, as follows:
Radical Personalistas: Hipólito Irigoyen-Francisco Beiró.
Radical Anti-Personalistas: Leopoldo Melo-Vicente C. Gallo.
Socialists: Mario Bravo-Nicolas Repetto.
Communists: Rodolfo J. Ghioldi-Miguel Contreras.
Communists of the Argentine Republic: José F. Penelón-Florindo A. Moretti.

Labor Communist Party: Pascual Loiacono-Pedro Jordán.

The last four need not be considered as they have minor strength and are hardly known out of the capital, except the Socialists who have some strength in the Province of Buenos Aires.

3. The Argentine constitution provides that electors for President and Vice-President are named by direct vote. These electors meet in each province and vote for President and Vice-President. The Ballot boxes are sent to Buenos Aires and are opened before Congress (3/4 of both houses must be present) and counted. If the Presidency and Vice-Presidency become vacant then the order of succession is the Provisional President of the Senate (now Leopoldo Melo and he will probably be reelected this year as the Senate has few changes), President of Deputies, Chief Justice of the Supreme Court.

3. It is believed that Irigoyen was the choice of the people on April 1st, many rumors are afloat that the opposition will make the election void. One method suggested is that Mendoza will not send their ballot boxes to the National Congress for scrutiny. Another is that the opposition in Congress will not convene to make a quorum of 3/4 for the scrutiny of ballots. If a President is not elected before the expiration of President Alvear's term in October then the Provisional President of the Senate (now Melo) takes over the Government. This would certainly cause trouble in the country.

4. Continuing the electoral surprise of February in Santa Fé, the Irigoyenist won in Cordoba during the past month. Two months ago the majority in this province was conceded to the Anti-Personalistas. In the election for Governor just held (direct vote) the Personalistas won by approximately 20,000 votes.

5. Although the Personalistas won in Santa Fé at the polls, they have not been able to elect a Governor. The Anti-Personalistas electors refuse to assemble so there is no quorum in the electoral College. Under the law the Governor must call another election but no date is specified so it has been delayed till after the General Elections. Salta is in a similar condition the Anti-Personalistas know they are whipped so have instructed their electors not to attend the electoral College. Direct vote as Cordoba has adopted is the only solution.

6. During the month the political meetings have witnessed many bloody encounters between the followers of the two leading political factions. It became so bad in the Federal Capital that the Irigoyenists cancelled all political meetings. It was very wise as they will have no trouble in securing the majority in this District. In Mendoza feeling ran very high between the Personalistas and the Anti-Personalistas known in that Province as Lencinistas (from the political Boss of that name - see Who's Who card file) men on Provincial payroll with pistols would ride around the city of Mendoza making citizens hold up their hands and cry out "Viva Lencinas". About March 27th such a mob stopped an Englishman as he was entering the door of his house. He had been in the country only 3 months and understood scarcely a word of Spanish; not complying promptly, they proceeded to shoot him full of holes (died shortly afterwards) and drive off with the police standing by. Naturally the British community are protesting loudly. Conditions in the Province of Mendoza are not indicative of a high civilization. Lencinas is running things with a bloody hand. The Melo-Gallo party have promised him that he would be seated as National Senator in exchange for his political support in the Presidential elections. The President is embarrassed as he has publicly endorsed Melo-Gallo. The day Irigoyen take over the Government,

It will be the end of Lencinas' rule in Mendoza. The former will surely intervene and "Gaucha Lencinas" will have to change his tactics or go to jail.

7. General Mosconi has returned from his trip. It was noted that he continued to make speeches against U.S. even after our Ambassador here objected to the one delivered in Mexico. He is now making a study of the petroleum laws of the countries visited and will make a written report to his Chief The Minister of Agriculture. As previously reported the Administration was against state monopoly, in last Congress however it is known Mosconi and his office wrote many speeches for his friends to deliver in favor of such a bill. His principal ammunition in his attacks has been that report of the United States Conservation Board, and his hatred of the Standard Oil. His assistant for speech making purposes, General Baldrich, has been retired from the Army and is continuing his activities (over the radio) of aiding State monopoly legislation. The Standard Oil do not seem to be worrying. The undersigned has just made a trip as guest of a party from the New Jersey (including 2 Directors) to their holdings in the Province of Salta. While the status there is still in an exploratory stage, plans for Argentina in general are continuing as if their future here was unthreatened. They are now spending \$3,000,000 m/n on a refinery at Bahia Blanca to take care of their Neuquen output. All information gained on this trip is entered in reports under Minimum Requirements.

8. Civil aviation training in Argentina is under the Army. Instructions were issued the first of the year covering all details of training, who should be students, age, nationality, length of course, number of students, examinations etc. The Aero Club Argentino (Buenos Aires) resented these detailed instructions and laid stress on its accomplishments in the past and the fact that all the Army did was to lend them two planes and non-commissioned officers as instructors. The Army would not recind its instructions so the Club met and severed all connection with the Army. It is believed that in time the Civil Aviation will be taken out from under the Army and several Army aviators have informed me that it should be done. It will not be however, until after Justo leaves the Cabinet.

9. An Italian Aviator, Colonel Ernesto Colombo arrived here on March 31st. He told the newspapers that he intended to inaugurate a taxi service in Argentina with hydroplanes. Equipment to be two hydroplanes, Savoia type, 59 and 61 with Asso. motors which are to arrive the end of April. The interviewed further stated the charge would be 5 lira a kilometer. This actively will be followed and further report submitted. There is no demand here in my opinion for the service he describes.

10. The Aero postal (Latecore Co) mail service to

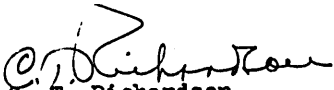
WIA 330700
WIA 330700
WIA 330700

-4-

A.C. of S. G-2

France has been inaugurated but so far 17 or 18 days is the fastest Service reported. This is not very remarkable when it is considered that an Italian boat (Lloyd Sabaudo Line) has just made the trip from Cadis here in 11 days.

✓ 11. General Eduardo Broquen died during the month of March, he was a retired Lt. General with a long and distinguished service to his credit. The death is also reported of General José E. Rodriguez who was Chief of the War Department Branch "Target Practice and Gymnasium". It is requested that this fact be entered on Who's Who card of the latter.


C. T. Richardson
Major, Military Attaché.

AMERICAN EMBASSY
OFFICE OF THE MILITARY ATTACHE.
BUENOS AIRES, ARGENTINA.

April 30, 1928

3886.

Subject: Current Events for the Month of April.

To: A. C. of S. G-2.

RECEIVED G/2 W. D. MAY 26 1928

1. The counting of votes for the Presidential Electors has not been completed. President elect Irigoyen is now so far in the lead that there can be no doubt of the result. He is in the lead in every Province except San Juan. In Cordoba which four months ago was conceded to the opposition went for Irigoyen on April the first by fifty thousand votes.

2. The Federal Government intervened during the month for the purpose of holding an election for Governor, in the Province of Salta. Threats of a similar intervention in Santa Fe forced the Governor to call an election for April 25th. The minority (AntiPersonalistas) would not meet to form a quorum in the provincial electoral college.

3. La Prensa is continuing its anti-United States campaign on the Nicaragua subject. Attached is one of the editorials during the month. Similar ones come out about twice a week.

4. There appeared in La Critica the first of April a suggestion that a legion to aid Sandino be organized here and sent to Nicaragua. A few days later appeared a very poor appearing man who called himself "Aguila del Monte" (Eagle of the mountain). He said he came from Mexico for the purpose of organizing the legion. One meeting was held on Plaza San Martin with about 150 people in the immediate vicinity, doubtless over half from curiosity only. In the opinion of the undersigned it is just a gesture from a few publicity seekers. Every effort is being made to find out who is behind the movement. The United States Ambassador has brought the matter to the attention of the Foreign Office. Certainly no body of men will leave here on any such mission.

5. Dr. Honorio Pueyrredon arrived during the month. He was met at the dock by about 300 people. Many of these, of course were personal friends and relations. One small body carried a banner on one side was welcome to Pueyrredon, or words to that effect, and on the other Irigoyen Committee. The papers have simply dropped him. He was quoted as giving an interview in Rio making certain allegations about bad faith on the part of the Argentine Foreign Office and the United States Embassy in sending messages to Havana. This interview he promptly

denied. He has called on the United States Ambassador twice. The second visit the undersigned was present. He appears very anxious to talk about Havana and loud in his praise of the United States. I was told by Dr. Alcorta (another member of the Argentine Delegation) that one of Irigoyen's political leaders said Irigoyen was not in sympathy with all Dr. Pueyrredon did at Havana. And Dr. Alcorta received the impression that Dr. Pueyrredon is not being considered for a place in the next administration.

✓ 6. Cabinet rumors of interest are afloat. Mosconi is mentioned in circles close to Irigoyen as Minister of War. Another is General Toranzo. The latter is very friendly with the undersigned. Nothing definite is expected on Cabinet till October 11th, the government changes on the 12th.

7. The Government has purchased the Iguazú Falls and adjacent land. The object was stated to be to make a National park and also a frontier station for the Army. A study has been made on very general terms of the water power. This will be covered in minimum requirements.

8. The National statistical Department has just made its report for the first quarter of 1928. The money value of exports show an increase of 6.7% over the banner year of 1927. This is due almost entirely to higher prices throughout the list as the total tonnage shows an 11.1% decrease. On the other hand bankruptcies took a large jump for March, twenty million paper as compared to twelve in February and eight in January. These figures emphasize more the need of reform of the Bankruptcy laws than a reflection of the economic condition of the country.

C. T. Richardson
C. T. Richardson
Military Attaché.

AMERICAN EMBASSY
OFFICE OF THE MILITARY ATTACHE.
BUENOS AIRES, ARGENTINA.

May 31st 1928

2-1 88 2048-182 AUG

28

3898

Subject: Current Events for the month of May

To: A. C. of S. G-2

RECEIVED G/2 W. D. AUG 17 1928

1. The Minister of War stated on the 6th of May that the Air Plane factory in the Province of Cordoba had been entirely completed and that in two months time the first set of Air planes manufactured would be ready, these are Avros training machines, the engines for which have been imported. Engines will be manufactured locally in the course of a few months.
2. Plans have been approved for the construction of work-shops and sheds at the Aviation Station in Paraná and also at the Aviation Station "Los Tamarinos" in Mendoza. The amount to be expended on each of these works is \$460,751.56 m/n
3. The total expenditure to be incurred in by the Direction General of Arsenals of War for the purchase of the necessary materials to run the workshops for the period of one year, amounts to \$548,171.71 m/n.
4. The Director of Aeronautics has, on the request from several Municipalities, sent special technical experts to choose appropriate lands for the installation of municipal air stations in the principal cities of the interior of the country. These stations will serve as landing-grounds for civilian and military aviators traveling in any direction through the country. These experts will report to the Director of Civil Aviation.
5. On May 17th there was inaugurated in the New Port the civil Aviation Station "Buenos Aires". During the ceremony a hydroplane Savoia 559 with Asso 500 H.P. engine, was baptized. This machine is to be used by Colonel Ernesto Colombo for taxi service as stated in the Current Events for the month of March 1928. The ceremony was attended by the Minister of War.
6. Dr. Pablo Torello was elected National Senator for the Province of Buenos Aires on May 18th for a period of nine years 1928-1937.

Current Events
May 1928

7. On May 8th the counting of the votes for the Presidential electors was completed. The number of electors for President and Vice-President are 376 that is to say, twice the number of Legislators in the National Senate and the Chamber of Deputies combined.

✓8. On May 9th the Electoral College elected Dr. José Luis Molinari, of the Personalista Party, as Senator for the Federal Capital for the period 1928-1937.

✓9. During the month the newly elected Governors took charge of the following provinces: Tucuman, Engineer Sortheix; Santa Fé, Dr. Gomez Cello; Cordoba, Dr. Enrique Martinez; Salta, Dr. Carnejo; Santiago del Estero, Engineer Santiago Maradona. The last two Provinces were under Federal Intervention.

10. During the Agricultural year 1926-1927 the total area cultivated in Argentina amounted to 23,762.090 hectares.

11. Argentine Foreign Trade during the first four months of this year amounted to 706,648,000 gold pesos, this figure shows an increase of 8.7 percent over that of last year.

12. During the month an important contraband discovery was made in the Delta of the Parana River. Silk to the value of \$200,000 m/n was confiscated and two of the five contrabandists were captured.

13. The following figures have been published by the General Board of Mines on the out-put of petroleum for 1927: Comodoro Rivadavia 1,287,000 cubic metres; Plaza Huincul 82,000 Cubic metres; Salta and Mendoza 3,000 cubic metres or a total of 1,372,000 cubic metres.

14. The Executive Power has authorized the issue of two loans for a total value of \$15,240,000. One for \$7,500,000 m/n at 6% per annum and 1% amortization accumulative, to pay for a fraction of land in Misiones on the Iguazú Falls, referred to in the Current Events for the month of April, and to the purchase of material to destroy locusts. The second loan for \$7,740,000 m/n at 5½% interest per annum and 2% accumulative amortization to meet credits pending payment.

✓15. On May 24th a powerful bomb was exploded in the Italian Consulate building, killing 7 people and wounding about 40. Much damage was done; the bomb exploded at the

Current Events
May 1928

at the busiest time of the day (late morning). This crime is said to have been committed by Anti-Fascisti. The police have been unable to locate the culprits.

✓ 16. Dr. José P. Guggiari has been elected President of Paraguay and Dr. E. Gonzalez Navero, Vice-President. Before taking over the Government of his country on August 15th, Dr. F. Guggiari will go to Brazil, Argentina, Uruguay and Chile on an official visit.

✓ 17. On May 16th the First Minister of Yugoslavia to Argentina, Sr. Ivo Grisogono presented his credentials to the Argentine Government.

✓ 18. Lt. Colonel A. Loubiniac has been appointed French Military Attache to Argentina.

✓ 19. On May 29th the new Argentine Ambassador to Perú, Dr. Jacinto Villegas presented his credentials to the President of that country.

20. A serious strike has developed in the Ports of Rosario and Santa Fé, all activity has been suspended.

Annie M. Welby

(Clerk)
Office of the Military Attaché.

AMERICAN EMBASSY
OFFICE OF THE MILITARY ATTACHE. 2-1
BUENOS AIRES, ARGENTINA.

June 30th, 1928

OFFICE MILITARY ATTACHE
BUENOS AIRES, ARGENTINA

1928 2048-182

29

7

3899

Subject: Current Events for the Month of June

To: A. C. of S. G-2.

RECEIVED G/2 W. D. AUG 17 1928

- ✓ 1. The new War Sloops "San Juan" and "San Luis" and the tugboats "Toba" and "Mataco", built for the Argentine Navy in England arrived at the Port of Buenos Aires on June 23rd.
- ✓ 2. The Southampton Aviation Works have secured a contract for the construction of six flying boats of the Southampton type for the Argentine Navy. Five of these will be fitted with wooden hulls and the sixth will be metal constructed.
- ✓ 3. On June 19th Lt. Colonel Antonio F. Bossi who was on duty in the office of the inspector General of the Army, was named Director of the Arsenal Esteban de Luca. Also at this time Colonel Luis E. Villanueva was named Director of the Arsenal San Lorenzo.
- ✓ 4. During the month the authorities of the National Chamber of Deputies were elected as follows: President Dr. Andrés Ferreyra; First Vice-President, Sr. Jorge Raul Rodriguez; Second Vice President, Sr. Francisco Emparanza.
- ✓ 5. In accordance with legal prescription the College of electors for President and Vice President of the Republic assembled on Tuesday June the 12th in the Federal Capital and the Capitals of each of the Provinces. Dr. Hipolito Irigoyen and Dr. Francisco Beiró were elected President and Vice-President respectively receiving 245 votes against 73 cast for their oponents; thus on October 12 Dr. Irigoyen will assume the Presidency of the Republic for the Second time. The overwhelming victory which he achieved at the polls on April 1st was a tribute to a remarkable personality, he is it is stated about 76 years of age. The critical condition of Dr. Beiró's health has caused much anxiety in the party and several medical consultations were held to ascertain whether the acceptance of the nomination would endanger his health. However the verdict was that his health would suffer in no way so he

Current Events
June 1928

remained candidate to the Vice-Presidency and has now become Vice President elect.

6. Congress was opened on June 28th by President Alvear with the usual ceremony. Dr. Alvear read his last message to Congress as his term of office expires on October 12th; a translation of this message is enclosed. The delay in opening of Congress this year, which according to strict constitutional precept should be opened on May 1st, was due to fierce debates in the Chamber which made the constitution of Congress impossible, the causes are the following: Due to the fact that the "Personalistas" are in the minority in the Senate (though they have a large majority in the lower Chamber) much discussion has arisen through the probability of the Senate accepting the diplomas of two Anti-Personalista Senators. The Chamber has been discussing the diplomas of the recently elected Senators. Those who fought under the banner of the Irigoyenists were approved almost without question. Those who were able to win their seats against the power of Irigoyenism are loudly declared to be corrupt and dishonest. The actual trouble concerned the election of a Senator for Tucumán - Sr. Alfredo Guzman who was elected Senator by the Provincial Legislature in October last and presented his diploma to the National Senate last month. It was recommended for acceptance and rejected by the Personalista party. Leaving the matter pending the newly constituted Legislature in Tucumán (Personalista Party) elected another Senator, Sr. A. Aguido Avila and when the time came to accept the diploma of either one or the other of these two men, the Personalistas, seeing they were in the minority walked out leaving the Chamber without a quorum. The next session was unattended by the whole party. During the third session as soon as the matter was brought up the party again abandoned their seats. However this time the Anti-Personalistas continued without the absentees and not only elected Sr. Guzman for Tucuman but also Sr. Alberto J. Paz for Santa Fe. This Diploma had been violently objected to by the Personalista Sector. The President of the Senate tried to prove that there was not a legal quorum of this occasion because the quorum had been completed with one Senator-elect; however this proved to have been the case on several other occasions when no objection had arisen. Thus, finally Congress was constituted and the date for the opening was announced to the President of the Republic.

7. The strike in the Ports of Rosario and Santa Fé reported in the Current Events for the month of May, has now spread and a general strike has been announced in the city of Rosario. Commerce and Industry interests have shut down and maintain that the police force offer no guarantees or

Current Events
June 1928

protection of any kind. A note has been drawn up by the community requesting the Governor to dismiss the Chief of Police as he has not moved to relieve the very serious situation. The tramway Companies and telephone Company have been put out of commission by the strikers. The water-works and electric-light supply are seriously threatened, and the port activities are at a stand-still. It is rumoured that this is a reaction from the National elections when the Irigoyenists are said to have promised the labor class the upper hand after the elections, in exchange for their votes. This explains the lack of action on the part of the Chief of Police.

8. The construction of the subway line in Buenos Aires from the Chacarita to Plaza Lavalle and the New Port, authorized by Congress and referred to in the Current Events for the month of December 1927, seems to be developing into a long drawn out legal battle which means the postponement of the very necessary works, for an indefinite period. This subway is to be built by the Direction General of Railways, and run by the Lacroze Tramway Company; it is to be used for passenger and freight traffic. The Government considers it a railway and therefore under their jurisdiction; the city Council considers it a tramway system and maintains that by law the Municipality alone has authority to grant or refuse concessions for the construction, and draw up regulations governing the operation of such enterprises running through the city.

9. The Executive Power has authorized the establishment of a new direct telephone Service linking up Buenos Aires, Montevideo and Santiago de Chile under the supervision of the Cia Argentina Telefonica. The President of the country inaugurated the Service on June 22nd speaking to the Presidents of Chile and Uruguay.

10. The 1928 Budget for the State Railways has been approved by the Executive Power. Entries are calculated at \$58,733,434 m/n and expenditures at \$56,409,018 m/n.

11. The Administrator General of Internal Revenue has sent his report to the Ministry of Finance for the year 1927. The internal revenue collections according to this report amounted to \$115,642,101.50 m/n. This figure compared with that of 1926 shows an increase of more than two million and a half pesos.

12. The maize harvest this year amounts to 7,765,000 tons as published by the Minister of Agriculture.

13. During the month President Alvear signed a decree

Current Events
June 1928

ordering the National Public Credit Department to issue bonds to the value of \$1,000,000 paper to be known as "Port of Mar Del Plata Internal Credit" bearing 5% annual interest with 1% annual sinking fund, the proceeds of which will be devoted to carry on the construction of the port at Mar del Plata. This issue forms part of a total issue of \$12,000,000 gold or its equivalent in paper currency authorized by Law No. 6499 the amount previously issued was \$13,646,209.07.

Another decree issued by the President on the same date instructs that the "Credito Publico Nacional" shall issue the sum of \$781.800 paper in bonds to be denominated "Credito Interno de la Nacion - Bonos de los Ferrocarriles del Estado" - Third series of six percent, interest and one percent amortization, accumulative. This issue completes the total issue of \$142,000,000 paper authorized by the Budget Law No. 11,389 and the proceeds will be used by the State Railways to exchange documents and pay up debts incurred in by the State Railways.

14. A contract for an issue of an \$8,000,000 paper loan to the City of Tucuman has been signed between the New York Firm of Rolling and Sons and the special representative from Tucuman. This loan was sanctioned on March 28th last. It is proposed by the Mayor of Tucuman to spend the money as follows: \$4,000,000 for paving works throughout the city of Tucuman; \$2,328,545.90 to pay off the municipal debt and the remainder in various public works of an urgent nature.

15. The National Government has authorized the Administration of the State Railways to enter into contracts for the acquisition of 1,100 wagons for use on the Central Norte Argentino system. The purchase will be effected from two United States firms.

16. 2,682 metres of wharf with deep water and 15 buildings - hangers and deposits - in the new Port under construction in Buenos Aires, have been finished and will now be open to public use relieving to some extent the traffic congestion in the city Port.

17. The Railways of the Province of Entre Rios have obtained the authorization of the Executive Power to run a service of Ferry-boats from the City of Ibicuy in that Province, to Barracas -suburb of Buenos Aires- This will enable them to transport cattle and other products into the city in the same waggon they have been loaded. The railways have already ordered one ferry-boat which has been purchased in England.

Current Events
June 1928

18. In Santa Fé the Government Legislature is in serious conflict. The Governor has closed the Legislative Building and placed it under armed guard. This move was taken, it is said, owing to a political dispute between the Vice-Governor (Personalista) and the Anti-Personalista Legislators. A complaint was drawn up by the legislators to the Minister of the Interior who in reply requested a detailed report on the subject so as to know the best way to proceed; and so the matter stands.

19. The President of the Chamber of Deputies has received a note requesting National Intervention in the Province of San Juan in order to re-establish in that politically corrupt Province the Republican form of Government.

20. The Uruguayan Government has elevated the Legation of that country in Buenos Aires to Embassy rank. Dr. Juan Carlos Blanco, the former Minister is the first Uruguayan Ambassador to Argentina and presented his credentials to the Argentine Government on June 27th.

21. Dr. Ricardo Daval the new Argentine Minister to Central America, sailed from his country on June 14th.

22. The new French Ambassador to Argentina, Luis Georges Clinchant, presented his letters of Credency to President Alvear on June 14th.

23. Sr. Barilari, the new Argentine Minister to Ecuador left Argentina for Quito on June 14th.

24. On June 14th there arrived in Buenos Aires the British light cruiser "Cornwall" on a visit of courtesy to Argentina.

Annice M. Welby

(Clerk)

Office of the Military Attaché.

AMERICAN EMBASSY
OFFICE OF THE MILITARY ATTACHE.
BUENOS AIRES, ARGENTINA.

July 31st, 1928

3900.

Subject: Current Events for the month of July

To: A. C. of S. G-2

RECEIVED G/2 W. D. AUG 30 1928

1. A Project prepared by the Direction General of Navigation and Ports has been approved. This project is for the construction of a large station at the entrance of the New Port to facilitate the landing and embarking of passengers and freight, which facilities are at present inadequate in the New Port. The works will be under the "Direction of Navigation and Ports", will cost \$6,185,550 m/n and consist of five piers supplied with every necessary convenience.

2. The total National, Provincial and Municipal debt of the country at June 30th, according to the Corporation of Bond Holders, amounted to \$3,945,445, 183.06 m/n. These debts are spread over a population of 10.000.000 people.

The foreign consolidated National debt up to December 31, 1927 amounted to, \$1,103,820,136.65 m/n. The internal consolidated debt on the same date amounted to \$1,051,697,961.82 m/n which is a total of \$2,155,518,098.47 m/n. To this amount should be added the issues made during the first six months of this year which brings the consolidated debt up to \$2,274,648,989.37 m/n. Then there is the short term debt which amounts to \$28,265,454.54 m/n and the non-consolidated debt which is \$448,440,376.20 m/n pesos; all of which makes a total National debt at June 30th, 1928 of \$2,751,354,820.11 m/n. According to the Corporation of Bond Holders; Argentine National, Provincial, and Municipal bonds are held in the United States to the amount of \$430,000,000 gold. However Argentina's credit is perfectly sound as her assets are real; the interest on her borrowed money is paid punctually.

3. A new Municipal Loan, Series C., issued under previous authorization by the Buenos Aires Municipality has been taken up by the Banco de Italia y Rio de La Plata. The sum involved is \$9,654,432 paper plus the amount of the first coupon which falls due on October 1st. The bonds are 6% security with 1% per annum cumulative amortization, and their face value is \$10,056.700 paper.

Current Events
July 1928

4. On July 18th the Ministry of Finance arranged with local banking institutions for the renewal of short term loans to a total of \$31,000,000 paper for a further period of 180 days at $4\frac{1}{2}$ per cent, interest, annual.

5. On July 24th the Ministry of Finance sent a Message to Congress embodying all the items of the 1928 Budget for that of the coming year, thus proposing that the 1929 Budget be a reproduction of the present one. The only modification proposed consists in the incorporation of interest services on loans issued to date, which will be an additional sum of \$15,529,769.18 paper. With this modification the 1929 Budget figures would reach \$678,968,946.78 paper which sum, says the message, is well covered by the Revenue.

6. The National Bureau of Statistics reports that the value of commercial interchange of the Republic (coined gold and bullion excluded) during the first six months of the present year, amounted to the sum of \$1,018,348,000 gold, as compared with \$958,150,000 gold during the corresponding period of 1927 which represents an increase of 6.3%.

The value of the imports during the period under review reached to \$441,619,000 gold, against \$394,248,000 gold for the first half of the year, which shows an increase of 12%. The imports of coined bullion represented the value of \$99,425,000 gold, against \$3,648,000 gold, during the first six months of last year.

The value of exports during the first half of the present year was \$576,729,000 gold, as compared with \$563,902,000 gold, during the corresponding period of 1927, an increase of \$12,827,000 or 2.3%. There were no exports of coined gold or bullion during the period under review.

The balance of trade in favor of the country during the first half of the present year was \$135,110,000 gold against a favorable balance of \$169,655,000 gold during the corresponding period of last year.

7. The delegates to the Bolivia-Paraguay Boundary Question held their last meeting on July 12th when they signed an act of suspension of the boundary question deliberations. Despite the numerous meetings that have been held by the delegates and the good offices of the Argentine Chancellery the deliberations have not resulted as satisfactory as had been expected as no agreement could be reached. The delegates are now departing to their respective countries.

8. Dr. José P. Guggiari, President-elect of the Republic of Paraguay arrived in Buenos Aires on July 21st on the Uruguayan cruiser "Uruguay" as a guest of honor of

Current Events
July 1928

the Nation; as has been stated in the Current Events for the month of May, Dr. Guggiari had planned a series of visits to neighbouring countries before assuming the Executive Power on August 15th. He has been most hospitably entertained in Buenos Aires, where he stayed until July 25th when he left for Chile.

✓9. On July 2nd the ceremony of the administering of the oath of fealty to the Flag to the conscripts of the Military class of 1907 took place. The President of the Republic and the Minister of War attended the ceremony and reviewed the troops.

✓10. Colonel Francisco Reynolds, Military Attaché to the Republic of Uruguay has been recalled and Colonel Juan E. Palacios has been named Military Attache in his place.

✓11. On July 13th Dr. Juan G. Valenzuela was named Sub Secretary to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Culture, replacing Dr. Restelli who has been named Argentine Minister to Germany.

12. The anniversary of the swearing of the Independence was celebrated on the 9th with the greatest enthusiasm in the city. A Military and Naval parade, the Te Deum at the Cathedral and other official acts took place. 11,500 troops marched on parade and all the new material recently purchased in Europe was on view, including the armoured cars. There also took part several squadrons of Military, Naval and civilian airplanes which flew over the city in formation during the parade.

✓13. During the month the Chamber of Deputies approved a project for National Intervention in the Province of San Juan by 199 votes against 14. Intervention in the Province of Mendoza which is in an equally deplorable political condition is being discussed at great length but whenever the question is finally put to vote there is never a quorum in the Chamber.

14. The general strike in the city of Rosario seems to be improving but is by no means at an end. The port laborers have returned to work. The tramway Company, which has suffered great loss from damage by strikers, finally settled their differences with the city Council who had voted Municipal intervention and confiscation of the trams if the company did not put the trams on service; this had been attempted twice and both times the trams were burned and stoned by strikers. Now the rails and trams are being

Current Events
July 1928

repaired and are expected to be in working order in the near future. The telephone Company is still out of service and the bakers are also on strike.

15. Conditions in the Province of Santa Fé are still unchanged (See Current Events for June) Legislation has discontinued and the functions of the Legislators have fallen upon the Executive Power who acts as he thinks fit. The Anti-Personalista Legislators have met to request Federal Intervention. The matter has been considered in the Chamber of Deputies but no action has been taken.

16. Dr. Francisco Beiró, Vice-President Elect of the Republic died on July 22nd. Dr. Beiro's delicate state of health was not unknown, though only lately he had been pronounced organically sound by a number of distinguished medical men. However in the last few weeks he suffered several relapses. Until the day before he died the papers and doctors, published optimistic reports about his health. (Please make note of this event on Who's Who card).

The situation created by the death of the Vice-President elect is a curious and unprecedented one. Neither the National Constitution nor the Electoral Law provides for the contingency of the death or disability of a President-elect or Vice-President elect before assumption of office. In view of this fact, it was expected that, mobilizing their large majority in the Lower Chamber the Radical Party would have convoked Senators and Deputies to General Assembly to sanction a measure which would deal with the present emergency and at the same time provide for its recurrence in the future. However, against all expectations, after some informal discussions in the house of the President-elect, Dr. Irigoyen, the authorities of the Radical Party convoked a convention for August 2d. to choose a successor to Dr. Beiró. Simultaneously they invited the Presidents of the Electoral Colleges in the Capital and the Provinces to convoke their respective components for August 6th and finally they arranged that Congress should effect the scrutiny on August 12th. The opposite parties maintain this is illegal as the Colleges of Electors were elected to discharge a particular duty and having done that have no longer any legal existence, not even Congress has the power, constitutionally, to issue a writ of convocation, much less, can political parties arrogate to themselves such a power. They maintain the only way out is for the parties to select their candidates and for another General election to be held to fill the vacancy. They refuse to attend the assembly convoked with the object of electing the new Vice-President nomina-

Current Events
July 1928

ted by the Irigoyenist convention. Thus the matter stands, but it is expected that the Irigoyenist party, in view of their large majority will for a quorum without the other parties, and thus have their own way. It is expected that Dr. Enrique Martinez, the new Governor of Cordoba, will be chosen by the Personalista convention as candidate to the Vice-Presidency.

17. The Chamber of Deputies met on July 2nd and decided that their regular meetings during the current period should take place on Wednesdays, Thursdays and Fridays. The Senate too held their first session on July 3rd and resolved that the Chamber should meet on Tuesdays, Thursdays and Saturdays, during the present ordinary period.

For reasons mentioned in the Current Events for the month of June, there was a delay of virtually two months in the constitution of the Chambers for the period of sessions which should have been commenced on May 1st this year; for this reason and also because of the fact that this year one half of the membership of the Lower Chamber and one third of the Upper Chamber had to be renewed and are consequently practically inexperienced, it is expected that little if any legislation of practical utility for the country will become effective during the two and a half months still to go of the ordinary period.

✓ 18. A sensation was caused in the National Senate on July 28th when Senator Diego Luis Molinari without revealing the source of his information, declared that a conspiracy had been organized in the Province of San Juan by Dr. Cantoni, Governor of that Province and Dr. Lencinas, Governor of the Province of Mendoza, to assassinate the President-elect, Dr. Irigoyen. Although Senator Milinari did not for the moment produce definite proof of the existence of the plot, the fact that he cited the names of the men detailed to commit the murder and the place where the plot was planned, the majority of his colleagues in the Senate gave a certain amount of credence to the story. The matter has been referred to the Committee of Constitutional Affairs of the Senate. Protests of denial were published in the papers in Buenos Aires by Dr. Lencinas.

Most of the daily papers have discredited the Senator's statement and some have ridiculed it. But Dr. Molinari reiterated his remarks and maintains that in view of the murders and outrages committed in those two provinces during the past few months the above mentioned politicians would not be above engineering an outrage against Dr. Irigoyen.

Annie M. Kelly

(Clerk)

Office of the Military Attaché.

AMERICAN EMBASSY
OFFICE OF THE MILITARY ATTACHE.
BUENOS AIRES, ARGENTINA.

1928 2048-182
31
SEP 23

August 31st, 1928

3901

Subject: Current Events for the month of August

To: A. C. of S. G-2

RECEIVED G/2 W.D. SEP 27 1928

1. On August 2nd the Radical Personalista Party held a Convention to elect a candidate to replace Dr. Beiro as Vice President (See Current Events for July). Dr. Enrique Martinez was nominated. On August 6th the Electoral Colleges met in the Federal Capital attended by all of the Provinces with the exception of San Juan, and elected Dr. Enrique Martinez Vice President of the Nation in place of Dr. Francisco Beiro. Only the Irigoyenist members of the Electoral Colleges attended, but they were in a sufficient majority to give effect to their choice. The absence of the Anti-Personalistas was intended as a Protest, as they claim that the Electoral Colleges ceased to exist immediately they had elected the Irigoyen-Beiro formula. The Irigoyenists never deigned to discuss the question. Powerful in their overwhelming majority, they ignored the polemics of the doctrinaries and went straight on in the convocation of the Colleges. The two Chambers of the National Congress were convoked to General Assembly on August 12th when the voting of the Electoral Colleges was scrutinised and Dr. Irigoyen was proclaimed President and Dr. Martinez, Vice-President for the Period 1928-1934.

2. The problem of the closed Legislature in Santa Fé which has been under the consideration of the Commission of Constitutional negotiations of the Chamber of Deputies, who have been studying the matter for a long period, at last voted Federal Intervention in the Province in order to re-establish the Republican form of Government in the Province. This has not yet been approved by the Chamber who will doubtlessly keep the matter pending for another indefinite period while the Legislature in the province is in a serious state of disorganization.

Things reached a crisis on August 13th when the Governor, Dr. Gomez Cello, appointed Sr. Ignacio Costa, as Mayor of the capital city. Following upon this designation and as a result thereof, the Ministers of Education and Finance, Señores Herrera and Ocampo respectively, sent their resignations to the Governor.

Current Events
August

3. Labor trouble still persists in Rosario where many trades are still on strike. The telephone Company strike is not yet settled. Meetings of the various Unions continue though nothing definite has been arranged in regard to resuming work. On the anniversary of the execution of Sacco and Vanzetti the general strike was resumed in the cities of Rosario and Santa Fé, when all activity was suspended for 24 hours.

4. The Minister of Finance has declared that the National administration for 1927 has resulted in a superavit. This fact which has been discredited by many, was proved by the request of the Executive for authorization of Congress so that the sum of \$3,068,482 paper, the superavit for the year 1927, be applied to the amortization of the floating debt, by paying off Treasury bills which have not been discounted.

✓ 5. The Ministry of War has decreed that officers of the Argentine Army can attend elections and vote in uniform carrying regular arms. They may also attend elections in civilian clothes.

✓ 6. In connection with the forthcoming Army manoeuvres the Minister of War, after a consultation with the General Staff has prepared the following plan of Campaign:

The first and second divisions, as well as the second cavalry brigade, will carry out their manoeuvres together in Campo de Mayo, towards the end of October. The infantry, cavalry and artillery schools will participate in the final manoeuvres of the third series, as far as the first and second Army division are concerned. They will join up with the second Army division while the manoeuvres are being carried out.

The Military Academy and communication troops will place one company and a squadron of communications at the disposition of the second division for the carrying out of manoeuvres of the three series.

Observation Group No. 1. with a squadron of six Breguet aeroplanes, will be at the disposal of the Second division.

The third division together with the Ninth Infantry Regiment will meet at Puchulu. The third cavalry brigade will be stationed at Mocoreta, SanGregorio. Observation Group No. 3, with five aeroplanes, will be attached to the third division.

The fourth division will carry out manoeuvres minus the Fifteenth Infantry Regiment, the 4th squadron of the Cavalry Regiment, and No. 1 Company of mountain sappers; and

Current Events
August

will be stationed at the Fulzer Estancia, in Cordoba. The Fifteenth Infantry Regiment will be stationed in the Zonda Valley, San Juan. The Fifth Army division, except the 5th battalion of engineers, together with the mountain sappers, will carry out manoeuvres in the vicinity of Salta City. The Fourth Cavalry Brigade will be divided into two groups: Cavalry Regiment No. 7 and Cavalry Regiment No. 12 will be in the vicinity of San Rafael, Mendoza; while Cavalry Regiment No. 4 and the fourth mounted artillery groups will be stationed near Villa Mercedes, San Luis.

The Cuyo mountain detachment, together with the No. 1 company of mountain sappers, will carry out manoeuvres in the neighbourhood of the Estancia El Plata and the Estancia El Salto to the West of Mendoza.

7. The Accountancy Department of the Municipality of the City of Buenos Aires has terminated the financial report for 1927. According to this report there was a deficit of \$1,665,489. m/n. Expenditures amounted to \$ 88,012.285 m/n and entries did not exceed \$86,111.510 m/n, it is said.

✓8. On August 1st the Chamber of Deputies approved the measure calling for Federal intervention in the Province of Mendoza, in order to restore a representative republican form of government in accordance with the prescriptions of the National Constitution.

✓9. Dr. Aldo Cantoni, the Governor of San Juan arrived in the Capital accompanied by two officers of the police of that province. As soon as the Governor had taken up his quarters, his companions were detained by officers of the C.I.D. and conducted to the central Police Station where they were disarmed and their identity duly established. This detention was ordered as a precautionary measure in view of the reports that had circulated and were vouched for by a Senator of the Nation, to the effect that Dr. Cantoni had planned to come to Buenos Aires accompanied by bad characters to carry out a plot for the assassination of Dr. Irigoyen, the President elect (See Current Events for July). At the request of the Governor of San Juan who showed great indignation at the arrest, his body-guard was set at liberty and their arms were restored to them.

✓10. At the time of the visit of the President elect of Paraguay to Argentina, and as an expression of friendship and cordiality between the sister countries, a project was brought up and approved by the Chamber of Deputies for the pardoning of the Paraguayan War debt and the return of the

Current Events
August

War trophies held by Argentina, taken during the so-called War of the Triple Alliance in 1871. This question did not receive everybody's approval and many objections were raised, articles appeared in the press, one especially, written by Dr. Murature who had been named Ambassador on a special Mission to Paraguay for the event of the change of Government. In it he expressed very clearly his views on the subject of returning War Trophies. After it was published, he resigned the mission with which he had been entrusted. The Liga Patriótica also took the matter up and expressed disapproval of the action. When the project was brought before the Senate, it was disapproved and has now gone back to the lower Chamber for revision.

During his stay in Buenos Aires, the President-elect of Paraguay stated as clearly as courtesy would permit his wish that Argentina would retain what she had won on the field of battle.

11. On August 15th the transfer of the power of the Paraguayan Government took place. Dr. José Guggiari is the new President and Dr. Gonzalez Navero the Vice-President.

For the celebration of this event a special Embassy was sent to Asunción from Argentina, headed by Dr. Miguel Susini as Ambassador, with General Tomás Martínez representing the Army and Admiral Enrique Fliess representing the Navy. Dr. Hector Chiraldo went as Secretary to the Embassy and Dr. Gabriel Cantilo as Civil Attaché; also there were three assistants. They left Buenos Aires on August 10th and returned on August 30th.

On August 8th the Cadets of the Military College and a delegation of cadets from the Naval School left for Asunción to return the visit of the Paraguayan cadets and to attend the act of transfer of power of the Paraguayan government.

12. The delegation of Argentine cadets, after leaving Asunción, continued on to Montevideo to be present for the celebration of the anniversary of the independence of Uruguay on August 25th and also to return the visit of the Uruguayan cadets. They returned to Buenos Aires on August 28th.

✓13. The first Centenary of the signing of the Peace Treaty between Argentina and Brazil was celebrated on August 25th with parades and other festivities in the city.

14. The Executive Power sent a message to the Senate in which it reiterated its petition for the prompt sanction of the legal project for the raising of a new national census which is at present before that Chamber. The message states that the mere fact that it is 14 years since the last census was taken justifies the petition for the sanction of the project.

Current Events
August

15. On August 7th the Senate approved the project sanctioned by the Chamber of Deputies for the formation of a Permanent Road fund which includes the construction and upkeep of roads. Under this law it is contemplated to build during the first year, 400 kilometers of road which will cost 20,000,000 pesos and after that, over a period of 30 years, 15,000 kilometers of road which will cost 600 million pesos. Funds for these to be supplied through the organization of the project, without imposing upon the finances of the public Treasury.

16. Nearly seven thousand persons in the Province of Buenos Aires have signed a petition asking Congress to proceed with the construction of commercial facilities at the Port of Mar del Plata. The original amount appropriated for the purpose by Congress has been spent and the works are suspended apparently indefinitely. The petition has been submitted to the Budget and Finance Committee of the Chamber of Deputies, for consideration and report.

17. The Dispute between the Municipality and the Government for the jurisdiction over the proposed Lacroze underground railway from Chacarita to Plaza Lavalle and the New Port, referred to in Current Events for June, seems to have been settled. The Municipality has passed judgement on the project submitted by the Company, the Department of Public Works of the Municipality has laid down certain conditions which the Company has accepted and the construction of the new underground will be started in the near future.

18. The preliminary works have started for the establishment of an air route for transport of correspondence between Comodoro Rivadavia and Buenos Aires. Convenient grounds for landing of aeroplanes are being chosen in Bahia Blanca and Trelew.

19. On August 10th there arrived in Buenos Aires the British cruiser "Capetown" and on August 20th the British cruiser "Colombo" on a visit of courtesy to Argentina. The "Colombo" sailed for Montevideo on the 24th of August and the "Capetown" left Buenos Aires on the 29th of August.

Annie M. Welby

(Clerk)

Office of the Military Attaché.

AMERICAN EMBASSY
OFFICE OF THE MILITARY ATTACHE.
BUENOS AIRES, ARGENTINA.

September 30th, 1928

STATE DEPT.
INTEL. DIV.

2-1 21 3042-122
32

3903

Subject: Current Events for the month of September

To: A. C. of S. G-2

RECEIVED G/2 W.D. NOV 7 1928

1. After an over-night sitting the Chamber of Deputies on September 25th sanctioned the project of estimates of expenditure of the National Administration for the year 1929. This bill was passed by the Senate without alteration on September 29th. The Expenditures are distributed as follows:

Congress	\$ 6,383,511.00
Interior	110,573,239.64
Foreign Affairs	6,651,633.64
Finance	27,602,138.00
Public Debt	216,661,015.99
Justice and Education	149,645,621.52
War	67,587,321.31
Marine	46,816,045.15
Agriculture	22,198,236.00
Public Works	23,640,165.00
Pensions	24,349,052.18
Extra Subsidies	3,871,939.82

\$705,979,319.25 m/n

Expenditure on various public works, which is to be met with bonds to the value of \$158,000,000 is not included in the foregoing and the sum of \$28,644,225.40 assigned for benefit subsidies which is to be covered with the proceeds of the National Lottery and the tax on perfumes and specifics, is also excluded, so that, in reality, the total expenditure will amount to the sum of \$ 892,623,544.65 for the year, exclusive of the inevitable special credits and Cabinet authorizations. The calculated revenue amounts to \$706,000,000 m/n. The Budget at present in force provides for expenditure amounting to \$646,000,000 so that the authorized expenditure for the next year represents an increase of approximately \$60,000,000.

2. After having had the matter of petroleum under discussion for more than 18 months the Chamber of Deputies on September 18th passed the Bill calling

Current Events
September

for the expropriation of all privately held and exploited oil-bearing lands and creating a State petroleum monopoly. The measure was approved by a majority of 79 votes to 16. Should this become law it would involve a total elimination of all privately owned enterprises in the oil fields of Argentina. Concessions however many years they may have been under the drill would be taken over and their operation continued by the Department now under the direction of General Mosconi. The monopoly would even extend to the transport and sale of all petroleumiferous products. Congress is not in favor of this expropriation of the mines, neither are many members of the Lower Chamber and numerous distinguished Argentine economists and Engineers out of Congress. What the National Congress contemplates is a monopoly of the oil business, future concessions and means of transport, but recognizing the existence of private property of the present mines. It has been decided however that the petroleum question will not be discussed in this year's session of Congress.

3. On September 20th the Senate approved the project of intervention in the province of San Juan. However, some modifications were made to the bill submitted by the Chamber of Deputies. For this reason the project had to return to the Lower Chamber where the necessary alterations were to be made. The Deputies refused to alter the bill and returned it in its original form. The Senate insisted on their points and it looked as if the very necessary law would not be enforced. On September 30th during the last annual session of the Chamber which lasted a night and half a day, the project was again considered and was sanctioned with the modifications introduced by the Senate, due to the fact that, in the Lower Chamber, there was not a majority of two thirds against the alterations.

4. On September 22nd the Senate passed a Bill which had been approved by the Chamber of Deputies calling for Federal intervention in the Province of Mendoza and authorizing the Government to nominate an official to take charge of the Affairs of that Province. Later it was decided that the present Government would not appoint an interventor for Mendoza, but that it would leave the selection to the new Administration which will take up office on October 12th.

5. On September 30th the Chamber of Deputies sanctioned the projects for the intervention of the provinces of Santa Fé, Entre Rios, Corrientes and San Luis, in order to restore the Republican form of Government. For some time past the Governors of these Provinces have

Current Events
September

taken the law into their own hands. These projects were not approved by the Senate as no quorum could be gathered during either of the two last Sessions.

✓6. Sr. Abraham Carrasco, the inspector of National Territories on September 4th advised the Ministry of the Interior that he had taken over the Governorship of the Territory of Formosa, following the instructions received from the Ministry. The actual Governor Lt. Colonel Luis Chouciño is at present suspended in the exercise of his functions as the outcome of a warrant issued against him by the Territorial Judge.

7. During the month the National Government issued a decree through the Ministry of Finance cancelling a loan of 12 million dollars against Treasury Bills maturing on September 27th. These documents, which had their rise in the American purchases made by the State Railways during the previous Presidential period, have been successively renewed at varying rates, the latest being $5\frac{1}{2}$ per annum free of all charges. Messrs. J.P. Morgan & Co., and the National City Bank of New York (contracting bankers) offered a renewal at the interest rate of $7\frac{1}{2}$ percent per annum which has not been accepted by the Argentine Government who maintain it is too high. The decree issued by the Executive Power to that effect makes the following statement: "The Executive Power considers it desirable for the permanent interest of the country to pay the said obligation in full through the intermediary of the Treasury General of the Nation until such a time as the debt be consolidated or until it be substituted by an internal short term credit operation, regard being had to the fact that the liability referred to in this decree is the only short term obligation now pending abroad."

8. On September 27th the Executive Power approved the project prepared by the Department of Roads and Bridges for the construction of a paved highway from the Federal Capital to Rosario and Cordoba, a matter which has been in consideration for more than three years. The total cost of the highway is calculated to be \$52,886,984 paper of which \$15,079,237 will correspond to the Province of Buenos Aires, \$15,885,704 to Santa Fé and \$21,922,043 to Cordoba. The total mentioned does not include the cost of the expropriation of the ground, a great part of which has been donated by landowners.

✓9. General Agustín P. Justo, the Minister of War has been promoted to the rank of General of Division. This, it is stated, is in recognition of his valuable services to the Army, which under his guidance, and during his present term of office as Minister, has gradually been modern-

Current Events
September

ized in all its departments. (Please make a note of this on Who's Who Card).

✓ 10. On September 1st the drawing by lot of the conscripts who have to join the colors next year, took place with the usual formalities. The lists will comprise about 20,000 men.

✓ 11. Commenting on the increased budget for next year's expenditures many papers have published editorials criticizing the increase in the Annex for the Ministry of War which for 1928 was \$64,548,275 paper and for 1929 will be \$67,587,321 an increase which it is stated, is taken up to a great extent by large increases in salaries which in many cases are not justified and do not satisfy the real necessities of the Army.

✓ 12. Many articles are appearing in the press with reference to the transport "Patagonia" purchased in Europe by the Argentine Navy. According to the accounts published, the Chief of the Naval Commission, when she was tried, reported that her engines developed an average speed of nine and a half knots. On her voyage out to the River Plate, however, the average was only five and a half knots. On arriving she was sent to the Arsenal at Rio Santiago and was given a thorough overhaul - stated to have cost about ten thousand pesos - after which her speed, unloaded is only eight and a half knots. The engines are stated to be thirty years old, and some papers are now expressing a wish to learn why the Ministry of Marine authorized the purchase and what would be the use of this transport in case of War.

✓ 13. On September 19th there arrived in the port of Buenos Aires, the Spanish Training Ship "Juan Sebastian de Elcano" Commanded by Admiral Manuel Mendivel on an official visit to Argentina. This ship will be in Buenos Aires for the inauguration of the new Presidency and will take part in the Military and Naval parade.

✓ 14. Argentina's position with regard to the League of Nations has been loudly commented upon in the press for some time. Since 1920 the date when Argentina withdrew her delegates from the organization her position has remained undefined. At that time the Chief Executive signified, by a note, that Argentina adhered to the League of Nations without reservation and that it would ratify its decision "as soon as approval had been obtained from Congress". This approval has not been given to date. Every year Argentina has had an official "Observer" pre-

September
Current Events
September

sent at the sessions who reports events. Also Argentina has regularly paid her quota to the League. However in the Budget for 1929, the yearly quota due to the League has been left out of the Annex corresponding to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and this is causing loud comment in the press who state that some definite step must now be taken either one way or the other. Congress for this year has finished its period of sessions and no legislation on this matter has been passed.

✓15. On September 5th Dr. Antonio Sagarna tendered his resignation to the post of Minister of Justice and Education. The motive that prompted this action was the approval by the Senate of Dr. Sagarna's appointment as Minister of the Supreme Court of Justice in the place of the late Dr. Miguel Laurencena. (Please make a note of this appointment on Who's Who card.)

✓16. The new Japanese Minister to Argentina, Dr. Jiso Yamasaki arrived in Buenos Aires on September 24th from Rio de Janeiro where he was acting as counsellor to the Japanese Embassy in Brazil.

✓17. Major Yoshio Inouye has been named Military Attaché from Japan to Argentina, replacing Major Katsuji Imamura, who has been recalled.

18. The Ministry of Public Works has approved the project for the expenditure of \$1,000,000 pesos in the construction of a building for the Argentine Embassy in Brazil.

19. The Executive Power through the Ministry of Public Works has approved the estimate made by the Board of Navigation and Ports for the execution of the projected extension works in the commercial port of Mar del Plata. The approved estimate amounts to the sum of \$5,000,000 paper.

20. Strikes in the city of Rosario still persist. There was another general strike declared during the month which lasted 24 hours. Damage to property continues. Light and power cables have been cut all over the city. Most industries seem now to be more settled but the workmen of the Electric Light Company persist in their acts of violence and destruction. The continued protests from the Company to the police force, that their repair employees are not protected by the city forces, are of no avail, with the result that the company has ceased repairing broken cables and many streets in the city are in

Current Events
September

darkness. The gas company, only just inaugurated in the city has gone on strike.

21. According to statistice from the National Labor Bureau during the first half of the present year, there were 71 strikes in different parts of the country which affected 50,000 workers, of whom 36,667 were men and 7,820 women and 5,513 minors.

22. The total production of petroleum in the country during the first six months of the year amounted to: Comodoro Rivadavia 657,159.610 Lts. Plaza Huincul 56,229,267 Lts. and in other Zones 5,521,225 Lts.

23. The production of flour in Argentina during 1927 amounted to 1.294,291 tons.

24. The production of sugar in Argentina during the year 1927-1928 amounted to 414,527 tons a decrease of 59,728 tons on last years production.

25. According to official statements after an inquiry made into the finances of the Ministry of Public Works, following a recent theft of \$70,000 from one of the departmental safes; it is reported that approximately \$112,000 paper are missing from the Ministry's cash account. Investigations are being made to attempt to clear up this large deficit in the accounts.

A. M. Welby
A. M. Welby
(Clerk)
Office of the Military Attaché.

AMERICAN EMBASSY
OFFICE OF THE MILITARY ATTACHE.
BUENOS AIRES, ARGENTINA.

October 31st, 1928

DEC 8

33

7

3905.

Subject: Current Events for the month of October

To: A. C. of S. G-2.

RECEIVED 11-1-1928

✓ 1. In accordance with the National Constitution, the Executive Power issued a decree at the beginning of the month convoking Congress to extraordinary session for October 12th at 15 o'clock for the purpose of receiving the oath to be taken by Dr. Irigoyen and Sr. Enrique Martinez, when assuming office as President and Vice-President respectively for the period covered by the years 1928-1934.

✓ 2. In view of the termination of the mandate of President Alvear, numerous officials of the National Administration have tendered their resignations, some of which are: The Chief of Police, Sr. Francisco Wright; The Director of the Post and Telegraph, Dr. Arturo Goyeneche; The Municipal Intendent of the City of Buenos Aires, Dr. Casco and the Under Secretary of the Ministry of Public Works.

✓ 3. On October 10th Dr. Irigoyen announced his selection of the members of his Cabinet. The names of the new Ministers are:

Minister of the Interior: Dr. Elpidio Gonzalez.
Minister of Foreign Affairs: Dr. Horacio Oyhanarte
Minister of War: General Luis Dellepiane
Minister of Marine: Rear-Admiral Tomas Zureta
Minister of Finance: Dr. Enrique Perez Colman
Minister of Public Works: Dr. José B. Abalos
Minister of Justice and Education: Dr. de la Campa
Minister of Agriculture: Dr. Juan B. Fléitas.
(Who's Who cards of the above were sent in by

last mail).

✓ At the same time Dr. Irigoyen nominated Colonel Juan J. Graneros, Chief of Police of the Capital. A little later he named Dr. Luis Cantilo Municipal Intendent for the Capital and made public his intention to create a Direction General of Public Health, Social Aid and Sanitary Inspection at the head of which Department Dr. Antonio Agudo Avilo would be placed.

4. In a Cabinet meeting which took place on October 2nd it was decided to open a credit of \$300,000 m/n to the

Current Events
October 1928

Ministry of Foreign Affairs to meet the expenses that would be entailed by the reception and lodging of the Embassies that were coming to B.A. for the occasion of the transfer of the Presidential Power.

There were 23 countries represented by special Embassies during the ceremony of the Transfer of the Presidential Power on October 12th. The following were the heads of each mission:

- ✓ Holy See: Nuncio Apostolico Monseñor Felipe Cortesi
- ✓ United States: Mr. Robert Woods Biles
- ✓ Great Britain: Sir Malcolm Arnold Robertson
- France: Sr. Gorges Clinchant
- Italy: Conde Martín Franklin
- Brazil: Dr. José de Paula Rodrigues Alves, Ambassador, on special mission; Enrique Coelho Netto, Minister; Captain Radler de Aquino, Commander of the Cruiser "Rio Grande do Sul" which had arrived in Buenos Aires on Oct. 10th to be present for the ceremony.
- Mexico: Dr. Alfonso Reyes, Ambassador on Special Mission;
- Peru: De Miguel Checa Eguiguren, Ambassador on Special Mission.
- ✓ Spain: Ramiro de Maeztu, Ambassador on special Mission, Captain Manuel de Mendivil Commander of the training ship "Sebastian Elcano" which was present in Buenos Aires to attend the ceremony, and Commander Julian Sánchez de Erostarde, Second in Command.
- Cuba: Dr. Nestor Carbonell y Rivero, Ambassador on Special mission; Luis Solano Alvarez, Minister.
- ✓ Germany: Count Ludwig Von Spee, Ambassador on Special Mission.
- Chile: Dr. Enrique Ayarzun, Ambassador on Special Mission; José Francisco Urrejola, Minister.
- Santo Domingo: Dr. Tulia M. Cestero, Ambassador on Special Mission.
- ✓ Japan: Sr. Yiro Yamasaki, Ambassador on Special Mission.
- Ecuador: Dr. Rafael H. Elizalde, Ambassador on Special Mission.
- Belgium: Count Robert Van der Straten Ponthoz, Ambassador on Special Mission.
- Portugal: Dr. Eugenio Carlos Martinez Travares, Ambassador on Special Mission.
- Venezuela: Dr. Pedro César Dominici, Ambassador on Special Mission.
- Guatemala: Sr. Mario Estrada, Envoy extraordinary and Minister on Special Mission.
- Colombia: Sr. Ricardo Sanchez Ramirez, Ambassador on Special Mission.
- Bolivar: Dr. Abel Iturrelde, Minister of Foreign Affairs on special Mission; Dr. Alberto Diez de Medina

Recent Events
October 1928

Envoy Extraordinary and Minister.

Paraguay: Dr. Eligio Ayala, Ambassador on Special Mission; also the following Extraordinary Envoys and Ministers: Dr. Pedro Saguier, Dr. Carlos L. Isasi; Dr. Antonio Sosa; Reynaldo Bibolini; Dr. Justo P. Beritez; Dr. Justo P. Prieto; Dr. Dominguez Montanaro and Eduardo Peña.

Uruguay: Dr. E. Rufino T. Dominguez, Minister of Foreign Affairs; Dr. Daniel Castellanos and Dr. German Roosen as Extraordinary Envoys and Ministers; Captain Juan A. Batteone, Commander of the cruiser "Uruguay" which arrived in Buenos Aires on October 10th to be present for the ceremony.

✓ 5. On October 4th the city police discovered a well equipped bomb factory in the suburbs of the city where a large store of explosives were found. According to a statement issued by the police, a meeting of Anarchists had taken place in that locality a few days previous to the discovery and their intention was to manufacture a bomb for the assassination of Dr. Hipolito Irigoyen on the day of the inauguration of the new Presidency.

✓ 6. On October 12th, Dr. Irigoyen assumed Office as President of the Nation for the second time, this being the 16th President of the Republic as organized by General Mitre, who was the first of the number in 1862. The act of the transfer of the Power took place in the White Salón of the Government House and it was witnessed by the Special Ambassadors and Envoys appointed for the occasion by the foreign Governments as well as by permanent diplomats accredited before the Argentine Government, the members of the Provincial Legislature and high officials; also the friends of the outgoing and incoming presidents, a total of about 1,500 persons were present. Shortly before 15 o'clock Dr. Irigoyen went to the Congress where he took the customary oath in the presence of the Assembled Legislators and he then drove to the Government house to receive the insignia from Dr. Alvear. The Military honours of the occasion were rendered by several regiments of Infantry and by the Mounted Grenadiers and after the conclusion of the transfer of the power, the Argentine troops together with the marines from the foreign cruisers visiting Argentina, marched past the new President who witnessed the parade from one of the balconies of the Government House. During the whole day there was wild enthusiasm throughout the city, fully 200,000 people assembled in the streets to obtain a glimpse of Dr. Irigoyen on his way to the Government House. Loud cheers were given by the multitude for both Dr. Irigoyen and Dr. Alvear.

Current Events
October 1928

7. The very pessimistic way in which the idea of Dr. Irigoyen's return to the Presidency was viewed by a large circle, seems to be changing. The following is quoted from an editorial which appeared in the "Buenos Aires Herald" in this city: "There is no denying the fact that there is a growing spirit of optimism in local business and commercial circles regarding the actuation of the second Irigoyen Government. This has not been caused so much by the interviews which have been accorded by the President to various industrial and financial delegations and his expressed desire to assist traders, railways and producers to extend their operations in Argentina, but by his evident refusal to follow in the path in which labour agitators and others are attempting to draw him.....

"There is another point which encourages us to optimism, and which is not connected with labour. This is the afore-said clearly expressed desire of the President, indicated in various interviews, to assist trade and production to the fullest possible extent. There are a few who contend that these interviews have been in the nature of a grand gesture, meant more for publicity than as a proof of interest, but we cannot agree in such contention. The Chief Magistrate has no favours to pay, does not require further to pander to the masses or to any section thereof. It is most unlikely that he will ever be able to stand for a third tenure of office, (in view of his advanced years) hence he has every reason to concentrate on working for the verdict of history rather than for present popularity"

8. At the beginning of the month a strike was declared by the personnel on board the Mihanovich river steamers and tug boats in the port of Buenos Aires. Services however were not discontinued and the strike was being conducted peacefully. Later however it began to assume a violent character. Delegations were sent to interview the President of the Republic and then the Federación Obrera Marítima, who were directing the strike together with the Minister of the Interior and representatives of the shipping Company, held several conferences with a view to settle the matter. They finally came to an agreement and things appeared to be settled, but when the workmen returned to their posts they found that the company in many cases had taken on new hands to replace the strikers and were not ready to dismiss the new men, so they were told they must wait for a vacancy. For this reason it is expected that there will be further trouble. However the attitude adopted by Dr. Irigoyen for the settlement of this labour dispute does not appear to have been as lenient towards the strikers as it did on similar occasions during the first term of his office.

Recent Events
October 1928

9. The conflict between the Rosario Electric Light Company and the labourers has not yet been settled. The principle point at issue at present is the Company's refusal to accede to the demand that they pay the strikers the full wages for the whole period of stoppage. The Intendencia of Rosario is considering the resolution of the town council relative to the intervention of the municipality in the Affairs of the Electric Light Company. However this step is being studied, as hasty enforcement of the resolution might have unpleasant consequences.

10. The Ministry of Finance has accepted the offer of the Banco Argentino Uruguayo to advance a loan for \$10,000,000 gold at the rate of $5\frac{1}{2}$ percent interest and for the term of 180 days. This operation is considered satisfactory in view of the refusal of the American bankers to renew the loan of \$12,000,000 at less than $7\frac{1}{4}$ percent interest. The amount will be paid to the National Treasury to replace the sum paid for account of the State Railways in cancellation of the loan for \$12,000,000 gold in New York.

11. On the 26th of October the Ministry of Finance cabled instructions to the Argentine Embassy in Washington to pay Messrs. J.P. Morgan & Co. the sum of \$1,442,000 gold the amount of the service of interest on the loan contracted with those bankers corresponding to the coupon that falls due on Nov. 1st.

12. The Ministry of Finance has concluded negotiations with Banks of this city for the renewal of short term loans amounting in the aggregate to \$43,000,000 paper. The renewals have been effected for the usual term of 180 days at the rate of $4\frac{1}{2}$ percent annually.

13. On October 19th, Sr. Remigio Lupo, Administrator of the Customs House of the Capital tendered his resignation which was accepted. The reason for this resignation has not been made public, but it is alleged that administrative irregularities were discovered in the Customs House.

✓ 14. The last month or two have brought to light a large number of administrative irregularities which have taken place in the National offices, in the municipalities and in the Provinces. As each investigation advanced it revealed new discrepancies. Great frauds have been carried out in the Ministry of Public Works (referred to in Current Events for September) similar happenings in the Mendoza School Administration where the ex-Director of Schools in that Province, who has recently been arrested in Montevideo, is alleged to have been guilty of the misappropriation of more than \$250,000 m/n of the public funds. In the same Province defalcations amounting to more than \$60,000 m/n

Current Events
October 1928.-

have been discovered in the accountancy division of the Department of Health, also in the Municipality of Mendoza where receipts covering money payments were found to have disappeared altogether and employees have not been paid for long periods. In the province of San Juan the sum of \$170,000 has disappeared from the funds of the State Hospitals. New scandals are being brought to light day by day and in all cases Government officials are seriously implicated. In the Provinces of San Juan and Mendoza cases have been shown up in which checks for the payment of salaries have been issued with no funds in the Banks. Also cases in which Government Officials, in league with money lenders, withheld employee's salaries.

- ✓ 15. President Irigoyen on October 31st, signed a decree by which Sr. Carlos Borzani became Federal Interventor in the Province of Mendoza. He will proceed to take over the reorganization of the Province. The Interventor of the Province of San Juan has not yet been named notwithstanding the disorganized condition of that Province.
- ✓ 16. During the month six Deputies from Santiago del Estero interviewed the Minister of the Interior soliciting Federal Intervention in the Provincial Legislature of that Province owing to the necessity to reorganize the Government. For some time past there has been an open conflict between the Governor of the Province and the Legislature brought about by political differences. This conflict is becoming more serious every day.
- ✓ 17. Sr. Gonzalo Bulnes, Chilean Ambassador to Argentina resigned at the beginning of October, his resignation was accepted on October 3rd. Unofficially it is stated that his resignation was prompted by the fact that he was not named to form a part of the Embassy representing his country at the ceremony of the transfer of the Presidential Power.
- ✓ 18. Dr. Enrique Bermudez has been named Chilean Ambassador to Argentina.
- ✓ 19. Her Von Keller, the New German Minister Plenipotentiary to Argentina arrived on October 18th in Buenos Aires.
- ✓ 20. On July 26th, the President of the Foreign Affairs Committee of the Chamber of Deputies, Sr. Antoni, asked the Minister of Foreign Affairs to explain what was the existing Diplomatic situation between Argentina and the Soviet Government, what particulars were in possession of the Foreign Office as to its recognition by other States and

RECEIVED
OCTOBER 1928
-7-
Current Events
October 1928

whether the Russian Government has raised the question with the country. The Minister in an extensive note sent to Deputy Antoni on August 31st replied to the above questions. This reply was made public on October 3rd. Attached is the translation of an editorial on the subject, from the newspaper "La Nacion", in which the principal terms of the note are outlined.

✓ 21. On October 25th there arrived in Buenos Aires, a parliamentary delegation from London invited by the Argentine Rural Society to investigate the foot and mouth disease question in this country. These men have been travelling all over the country to see the sanitary precautions being taken in Argentine livestock and meat trade to avoid the spreading of the disease abroad through exported meat. Mr. Harry German who recently visited Argentina, representing the National Farmers Union of England to study the precautions taken in Argentina against the infection of foot and mouth disease by introduction of Argentine meat to the British Market, on arriving home published a very satisfactory report on sanitary conditions in Argentina.

22. The Buenos Aires Great Southern Railway Co. was authorized on October 10th by the Government, to construct a large grain elevator in the Port of Ingeniero White, at a total estimated cost of \$6,300,000 m/n.

✓ 23. According to a Report given out by the statistical Department of the Municipality, the population of the Federal Capital reached 2,046,341 inhabitants as of August 31st last.

24. The 1928 export season of fresh fruits from Mendoza has been a successful one, the total shipments amounting to 6,242 tons as compared with the previous record of 3,295 tons shipped in 1925. Of the total shipments, 3,315 tons went to the United States.

25. Many articles have been appearing in the press with regard to the probability of the United States Government increasing the present tariff on imported maize. Enclosed is a translation of an editorial which appeared in "La Nacion" after the final statement made by the White House on the subject.

26. During the month the Internal Revenue officials captured a \$30,000 m/n cargo of smuggled silk in the Parana Delta. The smugglers escaped. Another seizure of smuggled silks took place in Retiro Station in the city of Buenos Aires where the police seized 8 bales of smuggled

SECRET
October 1928
Recent Events
October 1928

silks representing a value of \$100,000 m/n. The smugglers were arrested.

27. The Minister of the Interior has published a statement which had been approved by the Government that went out of office on October 12th, of an 'ad referendum' contract entered into recently between the Direction General of Posts and Telegraphs and the Cia. Transaerea Colon, under which the latter is authorized to exploit an aerial correspondence service between Seville and Buenos Aires by means of dirigible airships. On October 25th there arrived in Buenos Aires the American Engineer A. Le Roy Block who is to be head of the construction of an airport for the dirigibles of the Seville Buenos Aires Line. This airport will be constructed in the near future with the authorization of the Executive Power and on the conditions to be arranged with the Ministry of War.

28. The works of the New Port of the Capital completed by the Board of Navigation and Ports after the rescission of the contract of Messrs. Walker and Co., were officially inaugurated on October 10th by President Alvear.

✓ 29. The Minister of War, on October 16th, gave out a resolution whereby General Augustin P. Justo, the late Minister of War is placed on the Seconded list of Military Officers. The resolution has given rise to various comments some interpreting it as the preliminary step towards the retirement of General Justo from Active Service.

✓ 30. The "Tucuman" second of the 3 destroyers under construction for the Argentine Government in England, was launched on October 16th.

✓ 31. On October 1st practice flights were initiated with the first airplane manufactured in the Airplane factory in Cordoba. The machine is an Avro type training plane double command, and proved to be perfectly satisfactory.

✓ 32. The annual Military manoeuvres are being carried out. These are not so significant as those held in 1927, in view of the fact that great manoeuvres are carried out only every three and five years.

Enclosed Translations:

Argentina and the Soviets. Office of the Military Attaché.
Mize Exports to U.S.

Annie M. Welby
(Clerk)

ARGENTINA AND THE SOVIET

"La Nación"
October 7th, 1928

2-048-182

32

The Minister of Foreign Affairs has now made public the reply sent to the Foreign Affairs Committee of the Chamber of Deputies, in regard to this country's relations with Russia. In his reply, the Chancellor states that it would be dangerous for Argentina to recognize the Soviet Government by tolerating their legations in the same manner as they are tolerated in Europe, that is to say, under the guise of "commercial agencies" which are little else than centres of revolutionary propaganda. He adds that it will not be possible for Argentina to recognize the Soviet Union until the Russian Government agree to respect, when sending a representative abroad, the right of the foreign country to work out its own salvation in its own way, with complete abstention from all propaganda that may be calculated to upset or modify the existing order of things in such foreign lands; and furthermore, that no rapprochement can take place between Argentina and Russia while the latter nation maintains relations with the Third International, which has publicly declares its intention to destroy the present state of society.

The feelings of the Government on the subject have been outlined in this Note in plain and categorical terms, and they are in line with the principles that govern intercourse between nations, while at the same time safeguarding the interests and rights of the Republic. While admitting the necessity of keeping abreast of the times which brings us inevitably to the conclusion that certain aspects of the modern social machine need readjustment, a sane, rational minded person would hesitate before accepting the farfetched ideas championed by the Soviets to bring about such a change. And as far as Argentina is concerned, this happens to be a country where every man, no matter what his rank, calling or origin may be, is entitled to develop his talents and resources to the utmost; and it therefore would not suit us in the least to tolerate the establishment of legations or "commercial agencies" belonging to States which have nothing in common with us, who lack freedom of the press, of business enterprise, and of religion, to say nothing of the right to express oneself freely or to hold public meetings for the expression of ideas.

To Argentina, no advantage but considerable danger would accrue from entering into relations with such nations while they are governed under existing conditions, since one of their purposes is to destroy the institutional order in other countries. On the other hand, experience has taught us that to enter into any other kind of relationship, with the sole idea of carrying on business transactions, only

Argentina and the Soviet (Continued)

leads to lamentable results, as witness what occurred a few years ago in Great Britain with the Russian Commercial Agency established in London.

Tolerance of foreign regimes, who send missions abroad for the sole purpose of destroying the Constitutional bases upon which a country rests, can only lead in time to that country's disappearance off the map. The Argentine Republic, which may justly feel proud of its institutional organization, demands protection from its men in power against the inroads of such foreign Governments. We are traditionally respectful of other countries' rights, and, in reciprocal manner, we expect that our Government will defend us in demanding that other countries treat us with similar respect, while we wish to have nothing to do with nations who would endeavour to sow social discord amongst us. For these reasons, therefore, we can find nothing but hearty praise for the stand taken up by the Executive Power, which has given its opinion in unmistakable terms.

EXHIBIT REPORTS TO THE UNITED STATES

(La Nación)
October 28th, -1928-

2-048-182

32

Our surprise regarding the probability or otherwise of the United States Government increasing the present tariff on imported maize seems to have been confirmed. The statement made by the White House regarding this matter, which was published in our columns, shows that, in the opinion of President Coolidge, the moment is not an opportune one for making modifications, or increases in the present tariff, in view of the slight bulk of imported maize as compared with the huge amount produced within the borders of the United States itself. This point of view coincides exactly with the opinions expressed time and again in the columns of "La Nación", and which might be summarised in the following form: the quantities of maize imported into the United States are so insignificant that they have no permanent influence on that country's market prices of this article. Secondly the interests of American exporters are of such magnitude and importance that the Government cannot afford to indulge in possible Customs' disputes over such tariffs with countries which are their clients.

The Official note from the White House, which constitutes a summary of Mr. Coolidge's ideas on the matter substantiates with sound argument the first premise mentioned above, which is to the effect that the United States imports an amount of maize corresponding to hardly 1% of its own maize production. Indeed, the United States' production is the most important in the world, and at the present time forms 55% of the whole world's total output, and is all utilized within the United States itself, that exported being exclusively maize elaborated into other products through processes of manufacture. Our northern friends therefore cannot be said to fear competition from foreign maize in their own markets, while what happens in other maize markets hardly affects them. Furthermore, the low price at which this grain is quoted is sufficient in itself to keep much foreign maize from ever entering the Union; while it may be remarked that, owing to the high freight charges that would be entailed in transporting the article to distant parts, Argentina maize entering the United States never gets farther than the coast districts principally on the western side. The high railway freights prove an effectual barrier in keeping Argentine maize away from the inland towns.

We think that the best solution of the present maize question is to leave things as they are, and it appears that the United States President is of this opinion. The maximum that this country has ever exported to the States in one season is 200,000 tons, and at current prices this represents a value of between \$17,000,000 m/n and \$19,000,000 Argentine paper pesos. It is evident that such a tribute represents nothing at all in comparison with any one

Table 1. Exports to the United States (Continued)

item of our important yearly purchases from the United States, and it fades into absolute insignificance when confronted with the total figures of our reciprocal commercial interchange. We buy goods from the United States amounting to over \$300,000,000 per year, and we sell them our products to the value of barely \$100,000,000—thus giving a huge trade balance in favour of the United States. There is no doubt that the significance of these figures has had its influence in directing the policy of the men in power up north, as regards finding a solution in the present emergency.

The policy of "exclusiveness" for national products cuts both ways, and the slightest move in this direction, the merest attitude toward barring the entrance of some of our products, would at once have a profound and serious influence upon the vast North American export business now enjoyed with these countries. Much more would be lost by the States than gained in the long run, since, in order temporarily to benefit a few farmers, the whole country's export trade with an important customer would be endangered. The Department of Commerce in Washington has wisely taken this broad view of the situation.

With this official data to hand therefore our maize exporting interests have nothing to fear for the future. Once the perturbing influence of the present electoral campaign is past, there is little doubt that the difficulty will be smoothed over by the simple process of leaving things as they are.

AMERICAN EMBASSY
OFFICE OF THE MILITARY ATTACHE.
BUENOS AIRES, ARGENTINA.

November 30th, 1928

3910

Subject: Current Events for the month of November

To: A. C. of S. G-2.

1. On November 14th the "Federación Obrera Regional Argentina" proclaimed a general strike all over the Republic for 24 hours as a demonstration in favour of the release of a convict, Simon Radowsky, who has been serving time at Ushuaia for the assassination of Colonel Ramón L. Falcón, Chief of Police of the Capital and his secretary, 19 years ago. In the city of Buenos Aires, the strike was a failure, the only services which remained inactive were the taxicabs and a few port workers. The police adopted various precautions and 300 men of the criminal investigation Department were on duty all night. This was due to the recent bomb outrage which occurred outside the city Cathedral on November 10th when two bombs exploded killing one man but doing no property damage. It was said to be the work of anarchists in connection with the above mentioned strike. In the city of Rosario the effects of the general strike were more pronounced, bombs also exploded doing some property damage.

2. The four months old conflict between the Electric Light and Power Company in Rosario and its employees was settled on November 8th when the workers agreed to return to their posts under the conditions proposed by the company a month ago, that is - to lend each man a month's wages repayable in small periodical installments, to meet their immediate necessities.

3. Normal conditions have not yet been restored in Rosario. The tram service is again at a standstill, the telephone service is on the verge of another strike. The citizens of Rosario tired of waiting for protection from their provincial authorities have formed a Federation of Commerce and Industry and on November 26th interviewed the President of the Republic to ask for the aid of the Federal Government to restore tranquillity and remedy the situation of commercial and social chaos that has reigned in the city for so many months and which is blamed on the authorities, who it is said, have allowed professional agitators to keep labour unrest from dying down.

Current Events
November 1928

✓ 4. The city of Santa Fé is also undergoing a series of strikes. Labourers of all trades patrol the streets in groups and provoke disturbances causing damages to public buildings and shops. Groups of strikers are also touring the Southern part of the Province inducing workers to down tools and join the ranks. The Merchants and Producers of Santa Fé have also sent a delegation to the President of the Republic explaining the situation and requesting assistance in order to facilitate free labour.

✓ 5. The situation is still more serious in the productive areas of the Provinces of Santa Fé and Córdoba, where the harvesting operations are dangerously threatened. Professional agitators have been busy throughout these regions and provincial authorities have sent forces endeavouring to quell disturbances of a very violent character provoked by armed bands whose sole object is to promote general strike among the agricultural labourers at this critical time of the agrarian year. The Rural Society of Rosario faced with this serious problem just as the harvesting operations are beginning have sent a delegation to interview the President demanding proper protection for the grain growers against the bands of anarchists. President Irigoyen has promised that the crops shall be protected and that the harvest shall be carried out in peace and tranquillity.

✓ 6. For unknown reasons the Interventor of Mendoza has not yet left Buenos Aires and no Interventor has been named to take over the reorganization of affairs in San Juan. Disorderly conditions in these two provinces continue and new frauds are coming to light day by day as investigations are being made in Government offices. On Nov. 21st there arrived in Mendoza, secretly, eight plain clothes policemen and a comisario from the Central Police Department in Buenos Aires. There being a strike of policemen still going on in the city, it was thought that the detectives had been dispatched to assist the troops in exercising vigilance over the place, but it is said they were also sent there to keep a watchful eye on persons who are thought to be engineering trouble for the intervention.

✓ 7. The head of the investigation Department in the city of Buenos Aires has resumed the Campaign against the Anarchist elements of the city, who lately have been active in various bomb-throwing attempts. Five houses known to contain anarchists were raided by the police and in one of them were found the family of De Giovanni, the alleged participant of an outrage which occurred a few

Recent Events
November 1926

months ago in the Italian Consulate, also a huge quantity of inflammatory literature and Anarchist propaganda was confiscated.

8. During the month several Delegations have been sent to interview the President and the Minister of the Interior by the Federación Obrera Marítima and the Mihanovich Company in an endeavour to settle the disputes between the company and the labourers. Matters have not yet been arranged but the river boat sailings are maintained normal. It is believed that the President will not accede to the petitions of the Federation.

9. On November 15th, Dr. Nereo Croveto was decreed President of the National Mortgage Bank.

10. On November 7th, President Irigoyen signed a decree appointing Dr. Antonio S. Amallo, Director General of Posts and Telegraphs, replacing Dr. Goyensche who resigned on the termination of Dr. Alvear's period of office.

11. On November 9th Sr. Luis A. Mela took over the post of Administrator General of the Custom House of the Capital, replacing Sr. Remigio Lupo.

12. On November 23rd there was discovered near Rosario, smuggled silk goods of an estimated value of over \$150,000 m/n. The whole cargo was confiscated by the authorities.

13. A smuggler was detained in the Port of Buenos Aires, on November 27th, trying to smuggle into the country a trunk with a false bottom which contained a very valuable collection of diamonds, rubies and pearls.

14. The Ministry of Finance has cabled instructions to the Embassy in Washington to make payments of \$1,578,375 dollars, corresponding to the interest of the \$45,000,000 Foreign Debt Consolidation Debt Loan which falls due on December 1st.

15. The Executive Power issued a decree on Nov. 5th through the medium of the Ministry of Agriculture which authorizes the Banco de la Nación to open a credit of \$50,000,000 paper in favour of a consortium of Bankers composed of the Banco de la Provincia, Banco Español del Río de la Plata, Banco de Italia y Río de la Plata and Sociedad Comercial de Exportación e Importación Louis Dreyfus & Co. The decree establishes that the Argentine consortium thus formed shall, in its turn open a credit for a similar amount in favour of a Spanish syndicate composed of the Banco Hispano Americano Madrid, Banco de Bilbao, Banco Urquijo, of Madrid and other important banking institutions.

of the
month of
1928

The credit is to be opened for the term of 180 days, renewable for a further similar term, and it must be destined exclusively for the purchase of agricultural products in the Argentine Republic during the year 1929.

The Banco de la Nación will charge at the rate of 5% interest annually on the credit opened to the Argentine Bankers and the latter must undertake not to charge less than 5% interest to the Spanish Bankers, the interest to be computed on the amount made use of and only for the time during which it has been utilized.

The Spanish Consortium will be at liberty to make its purchases in the Argentine Republic in the manner that best suits its interests.

✓ 16. The Ministry of War issued a decree on November 22, whereby the commands of the different divisions of the Army and the Chiefs of Regiments, Units and Institutes are ordered to demobilize the conscripts of the military class of 1907 in the proportion of 60% of the effectives from the 26th to the 30th of November. The disbandment of the remaining 40% of the conscripts will take place, in equal parts between the 26th and 30th of December and the 26th and 30th of January.

✓ 17. With reference to the sudden return of Dr. Malbran, Argentina Ambassador to the United States, the following statement was published in one of the Daily papers here on November 16th; "Conversing with high Government officials a HERALD representative learned that it was understood that Dr. Malbran would not return to his post in the Embassy in Washington because he was in disagreement with certain acts on the part of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs in Buenos Aires, principally in connection with the invitation to the President-elect of the United States, Mr. Herbert Hoover, to visit Argentina. The invitation, it is stated was addressed to Mr. Hoover direct from the Government House, instead of being passed through the Embassy as is customary in such cases, and the Ambassador felt deeply offended at the slight."

18. On December 1st there will be inaugurated in Buenos Aires a permanent daily Air Service between Buenos Aires and Montevideo for the transportation of passengers and mail. For this service there will be used two hydroplanes of the Cant No. 10 type closed cabin. Also another hydroplane of Savoia type for excursion trips.

✓ 19. On November 15th, there arrived in Buenos Aires, Lt. Colonel Emilio Herrera, technical Chief of the Spanish Air Service. The purpose of his visit is to settle all pending matters relative to the installation of a dirigible Air Service between Seville and Buenos Aires.

Recent Events
November, 1928

20. Lt. Mejia and Sr. A. Arsene have planned a flight from Buenos Aires to Seville for the occasion of the inauguration of the Spanish American Exhibition in the latter city, have left for New York to acquire the aeroplane with which they will carry out the important enterprise.

21. On November 8th the Great Southern Railway presented to the Ministry of Public Works of the Nation, for approval, the plans and descriptive memorandums for the electrification of the suburban service of the railroad.

22. The Argentina Government has purchased from Holland two new powerful dredgers which are expected to arrive in the River Plate at the beginning of 1929. These are for the express purpose of deepening the navigable channels of Buenos Aires. It is also possible that they may be used on the Parana River between Rosario and the Port of Santa Fé in order to establish a mean dept of twentyone feet on this section of the River. The new dredgers will cost altogether \$3,600,000 pesos.

23. The most important construction work on the new wharf at the Port of Bahia Blanca is now terminated and there only remains details such as placing of railway tracks cranes paving works etc., as well as the building of a large shed for the storing of merchandise. The wharf has been built of reinforced concrete, and at present is 180 mts. in length but it has been so terminated as to permit of future extensions when occasion demands.

24. During the month the Minister of Public works witnessed the launching of a 600-ton floating pontoon constructed in the Ministry's yards on the Riachuelo River at a cost of approximately a quarter of a million pesos. The pontoon is one of a "fleet" now being built for service in the up-river ports at a total estimated cost of \$4,000,000 and it will probably be towed to its destination about a month hence. It may be mentioned that the scheme for building the pontoons was approved more than eight years ago, during President Iri-goyen's first term, but held up for divers reasons until about five months ago.


E. C. Fleming
Captain U.S. M.A.

AMERICAN EMBASSY
OFFICE OF THE MILITARY ATTACHE.
BUENOS AIRES, ARGENTINA.

December 31st, 1928

3923

Subject: Current Events for the month of December

To: A. C. of S., G-2.

RECEIVED FEB 2 1929

✓ 1. On December 10th Sr. Carlos Borzani, the Interventor to the Province of Mendoza, left Buenos Aires. He took up the very difficult task of reorganizing the Government of Mendoza on December 12th.

The arrival of the Federal Agent in the city was attended by an incident in which several persons were wounded. The affair was prevented from developing into a serious affray by the timely intervention of the troops which had been dispatched to the Province from Buenos Aires a week before in order to maintain order.

The interventor has seriously set to work - several high Government officials have been arrested for fraud and robbery, among them is the ex Governor of the Province, against whom there are serious charges.

✓ 2. Sr. Modestino Pizarro who has been named Federal Interventor in San Juan, left Buenos Aires, on December 22nd accompanied by a Secretary of Intervention, Sr. Nestor I. Aparicio and a Secretary of Finance, Sr. Miguel L. Denovi. Previous to their departure there was dispatched to San Juan the 8th Regiment of Cavalry under the command of Colonel Bosch. On the arrival of the Interventor in the city of San Juan, a mob - the Cantoni Political crowd - attempted an assault on the Interventor and his party. However the 8th Cavalry Regiment charged the crowd, shots were exchanged freely and the mob soon dispersed. The interventor took over the government without further incident. He is now busy trying to find who is responsible for the disappearance of large sums of money from the Treasury and reducing and cancelling the prohibitive taxes levied on the fruit growers and wine manufacturers by the former Government. The city is more or less under military occupation and the troops are acting as police force.

✓ 3. The serious situation of the Province of Santa Fé referred to in Current Events for the month of November, has been relieved. On December 2nd without previous an-

Current Events
December 1928

nouncement, the 8th Regiment of Infantry left Buenos Aires for the Province of Santa Fé, by order of the President of the Nation and with authority to restore order by any means that might be found necessary, in the agricultural districts which were at the mercy of organized bands of professional agitators who are permitted to indulge in all sorts of excesses by the corrupted Government of Santa Fé. The news of the envoy of troops was received with the greatest satisfaction in agricultural and commercial circles. On December 3rd another Regiment was sent up to Rosario, the 10th Cavalry Regiment. All the troops were put under the orders of General Marcilese and were located in the different parts where the agricultural activities were being held up. Their practical and moral effect was immediately felt and on the 7th of December Sr. J. Enrique Varasna the National Governments Commissioner in the South of Santa Fé reported that the harvesting operations had resumed and continued in full swing in all the agricultural districts thus having avoided a National disaster. The troops will remain stationed in the different parts of the Province until the harvesting is terminated as it is felt that it would be unwise to withdraw them sooner.

✓ 4. Mr. Hoover arrived in Buenos Aires, on December 13th and departed for Montevideo on December 16th. This subject has been covered in a separate report sent in last mail.

5. On December 11th two days before the arrival of President elect Mr. Hoover, the police discovered a plot by which a number of anarchists had planned to bomb the train on which he was to arrive in Buenos Aires. The police raided a house in the Capital and in one room occupied by two anarchists named Alejandro Scarson and Ceferino Gomez Oliver, there was found eight bombs and a quantity of explosives and firearms, also a railroad map of the Pacific Railroad with outlines in red of the route by which Mr. Hoover's train was to approach the capital. Further investigation revealed that these two men mentioned above were also responsible for a number of other bombs which have been exploded in different parts of the Capital and Rosario for some time past.

6. The Direction of Hydrographic Service of the Navy on December 10th informed the Minister of Marine, that the new automatic Light-house "Buen Suceso" under construction at the south Cape of the Bay of Buen Suceso in Tierra del Fuego, had been completed and handed over to the navigation service.

Current Events
December 1928

7. On December 22nd, 83 cadets graduated from the Military College. The graduation Reception is Reported separately.

8. A decree published on December 6th through the Minister of War established that henceforth the No. 1 Cavalry Regiment of Grenadiers - known as the "General San Martin Grenadiers" - will cease to be under the Ministry of War but will be entirely and directly dependent upon the President of the Republic as a special service and under the immediate orders of a Colonel of the Regiment. On December 5th the President of the Nation assigned Colonel Luis M. Vazquez Commander of the above mentioned Regiment and Major Juan Arriban Gonzalez as Second in Command, replacing Colonel Sanchez Reynafe and Lt. Colonel Jose M. Ruda, respectively, these have been transferred from the Regiment and are at present awaiting orders.

9. The Ministry of War has given instructions for the preparation of a dental archive to be used for identification of all the active military staff in the aviation service as well as for civil aviators. The method to be employed consists in an examination of the mouth and teeth of each man, the results of constituting a personal record which differs in each case, more or less the same as occurs in the fingerprint method of identification adopted by the Police authorities. These examinations will be made annually.

10. On December 19th there arrived in Buenos Aires, the Peruvian Aviators Martinez Pinillos and Zegarra after a non stop flight from Santiago, Chile. This constituted the third stop of the Flight they have planned across the South American Continent. They left Buenos Aires on December 23rd for Montevideo.

11. For the second time in his career Dr. Luis F. Dellepiane has been appointed to the post of President of the Supreme Court in the Province of Buenos Aires. In 1916 he became Magistrate after which he filled posts of ever-growing importance in the judicial world until he reached the present appointment, to which he has now returned.

12. On December 5th Dr. Malbran, Argentine Ambassador to the United States, arrived in Buenos Aires. On December 6th he went to the Government House to report but was unable to see the Minister of Foreign Affairs. A little later the Executive Power signed a decree by which his services were temporarily dispensed of. His status is now that of "disponibilidad" or awaiting orders. The following

Current Events
December 1928

paragraph was published in one of the daily papers here:
"The Ex Ambassador to Washington is too much of a Diplomat to complain, but it is felt that he has been treated badly. It was not his fault merely his misfortune that certain things which his predecessor could not arrange did not arrange themselves subsequently. Dr. Malbran did his best and no man can do more."

✓ 13. Dr. José María Escalier has been appointed Bolivian Minister to the Argentine Republic.

✓ 14. General Kuhn, German Instructor to the Bolivian Army arrived here on the Cap Arcona on December 6th, 1928 enroute to Bolivia.

15. Dr. Adrián Fernandez Castro, President of the Town Council, has addressed a note to Dr. Enrique Martinez, the President of the Senate, informing him that at its session of the 12th inst the Council resolved to send a communication to that Chamber soliciting the prompt dispatch of the project law, revised, for the condonation of the war debt and the return of the trophies of war to the Republic of Paraguay, the project in question having already been approved by the Chamber of Deputies. (See Current Events for August 1928).

✓ 16. It is stated that Belgian, Spanish and North American bankers have offered loans to the Argentine Government without limit as to the amount. It is also affirmed that the Banco Aleman Transatlantico and the Banco Germánico have offered loans of \$30,000,000 and \$20,000,000 m/n respectively. On declining the offers with thanks, Dr. Irigoyen informed the representative of the bankers that the Government did not intend to raise any loans for the present but that the offers would be kept in account in case that it should be found necessary to accept some of them later on.

17. The transaction is completed by which the control of the United River Plate Telephone Company in Buenos Aires will be transferred to that of the International Telephone and Telegraph Corporation. (Separate report will be made on this subject).

18. Eleven bales of smuggled silk goods estimated to be worth \$50,000 paper were found and confiscated by the police authorities in the Province of Buenos Aires. The smugglers were arrested.

19. The Pacific Railway Company has submitted complete plans for a huge viaduct reaching from Avenidas Alem and

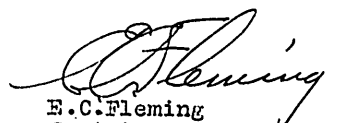
Current Events
December 1928

Alvear to the New Port; thus establishing a new communicating roadway which will do away with the numerous obstacles now existing in the form of railroad tracks and installations in that zone.

The viaduct will be 350 meters in length with a uniform width of 35 meters thus allowing for a wide central roadway with pavements for pedestrians on each side. Its cost is estimated at over \$6,000,000 paper.

20. In the course of a few weeks the majority of the kerb-side gasoline stations in Buenos Aires will pass into the hands of the Municipality, the high officials of which are now engaged on a study of the best means for their management.

It is stated that the Intendente has already indicated to the Secretary of Public Works that he favours the kerb-side pumps being kept supplied exclusively with nationally produced gasoline and that, with that end in view negotiations have been entered into with the Direction General de Yacimientos Petroliferos.


E.C. Fleming
Captain G.S.
Military Attaché.